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OPINION METER

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INSIDE



Inspiring Experience

Six teachers from the Grace Christian Academy recently returned from relief efforts that aided victims of the devastating earthquake and tsunami that hit Japan last month.

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In Hot Water

A complaint filed Tuesday alleges former Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo plundered an overseas workers' fund to boost her 2004 election campaign.

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Tapped Out

Wrestling star Chris Jericho was smacked down on "Dancing With the Stars."

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House concurs on 9.76% allotment cut. PAGE 2
House passes beneficiary derivative lawsuit bill. PAGE 6

Juvenile Detention Unit now under DOC

» **Fitial orders transfer from DCCA**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Fitial

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial issued yesterday an executive order transferring the management and control of the Juvenile Detention Unit from the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs to the Department of Corrections. **See DOC on Page 4**

Kilili reiterates no mass deportation of foreign workers by November

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sablan

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan reiterated yesterday what other federal officials had been saying—that there will be no mass deportation of foreign workers after Nov.

See KILILI on Page 4



'Reckless disregard' of public opposition to suspension of ETC



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Board of Education member Herman Guerrero, right, addresses members of the House of Representatives to ask them not to pass a bill suspending the educational tax credit program, during a session yesterday. Despite a unified opposition to the Senate bill from public and private schools officials who were at the session yesterday, the House passed the measure by a vote of 11-7 with one abstention and one absence. Inset shows Rep. Fred Deleon Guerrero (Cov-Saipan) and other House members who voted "yes" on the bill.

» **House passes bill despite overwhelming 'no' from community**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

For almost two hours yesterday, teachers, administrators, parents, and students from public and private schools took turns asking the House of Representatives not to pass a Senate bill suspending the educational tax credit, but to no avail.

Despite strong opposition from community members in the House gallery on Capital Hill, Senate Bill 17-68 passed by a vote of 11-7, with one abstention and one absence.

The bill seeks to suspend the ETC program during periods of government austerity or when biweekly payroll is less than the regular 80 hours.

Many government employees are now paid only 64 hours every two weeks.

Rep. Tony Sablan (R-Saipan) described SB 17-68's passage as a "reckless disregard of comments from professionals in the field of education—private or public schools, and also from parents and students."

No member of the public in **See RECKLESS on Page 4**



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Local

House concurs on 9.76% allotment cut

» **But not after debate over Fitial administration's decision**

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

By a vote of 17-2, the House of Representatives passed on Tuesday afternoon a resolution concurring with Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's 9.76-percent proportional cut in the allotment of all government branches, offices and departments.

But the passage of House Speaker Eli Cabrera's (R-Saipan) House Joint Resolution 17-33 didn't come easily.

House minority leader Diego Benavente (R-Saipan) questioned the legality of the Executive Branch's decision to start cutting the allotments on April 1 without waiting for a concurrence from the Legislature as required by Public Law 17-21 or

the fiscal year 2012 budget law.

Cabrera, during the session, defended the Fitial administration's decision, saying it's "unfair" that the Executive Branch is criticized for reducing the allotments when revenues are declining.

Benavente, who made it clear that he supports the joint resolution, said his questions were meant to inform the administration that it didn't have the authority to reduce the allotment without concurrence from the Legislature.

Of the 19 members present, only Reps. Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) and Frank Dela Cruz (R-Saipan) voted "no" on the resolution. Rep. Ray Palacios (Cov-Saipan) was the only member absent.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when asked for comment, said the Fitial administration begs to differ with Benavente's allegation that the Executive Branch violated the FY 2012 budget law.

Demapan said although P.L. 17-21 makes reference to a legislative concurrence, everyone must be mindful that the Department of Finance secretary "holds a constitutional authority to control and regulate public funds."

"Thus, in view of the decline in resources, the acting secretary of Finance exercised her constitutional authority so as to ensure that any such inaction will be a constitutional violation and all allotments were reduced as of

April 1, 2011. It's simple mathematics; it's clear that we will not meet projected revenues, so we have no choice but to initiate the reduction," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

Benavente, during the session, said the joint resolution is expected to undergo further scrutiny at the Senate.

The Senate is set to hold a

session tomorrow.

Fitial reduced the allotments by 9.76 percent as a result of a \$10.565 million shortfall in the original projected revenue for FY 2011.

From the initial estimate of \$132.565 million, the current budget has been projected to reach only \$122 million.

Life of fishing inspires winner of congressional art competition

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Bryan Deleon Guerrero's memories of his grandfather's fishing and the tranquil island life inspired him to create a masterpiece that will soon be on display for a year at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.

Deleon Guerrero, an 18-year-old senior at Marianas High School, bested 28 other entries to the 2011 congressional art competition for the CNMI.

His pastel painting is that of a grandfather and a boy on a small fishing boat at sea. The colors of the American flag are all in the painting.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan announced yesterday morning the winner of the annual competition, taking pride in the CNMI's young artistic talents.

At a brief ceremony, Sablan congratulated Deleon Guerrero and his parents Ramon and Rhia, along with MHS vice principal Christine Tudela and MHS art teacher Wesley Foster.

Tudela and Foster said this is the second time that MHS won the art competition. The first one was in 2009. Last year's winner was from Kagman High School.

Deleon Guerrero, who will be on his way to Marines training in San Diego, California, said it took him seven hours to finish his artwork.

"But I didn't work on it in just one day or one sitting. I would work at home, I would work at school, when I had free time," he said, adding that he also browsed online to help with the image he wanted to paint.

Sablan said Deleon Guerrero's work will be displayed in the walkway that connects the Cannon House Office Building to the U.S. Capitol, where congressional members, staff, and visitors walk every day.

Deleon Guerrero's work was chosen by a panel of four judges and will be on display in the nation's capital, along with one piece of art from each of the nation's 441 congressional districts.

The congressional art competition is open to high school students grades 9 through 12. Since the competition's inception in 1982, more than 650,000 students have competed for the honor of having their work exhibited.



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan, third from left, commends Marianas High School senior Bryan Deleon Guerrero, second from left, for winning the 2011 congressional art competition for the CNMI, at a brief presentation yesterday morning at Sablan's office in Susupe. From left, MHS vice principal Christine Tudela, Deleon Guerrero, Sablan, the winner's parents Ramon and Rhia Deleon Guerrero, and MHS art teacher Wesley Foster.

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Lawmaker's daughter, 2 others are new CNMI Bar members

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Supreme Court yesterday admitted the daughter of Senate President Paul Manglona and two other attorneys as the newest members of the local Bar association.

Chief Justice Miguel S. Demapan administered the attorney's oath to the successful Bar applicants Deanna Manibusan Manglona, Richard Miller, and Daniel C. Stafford.

The fourth successful Bar applicant, Catherine Jose Cachero, failed to attend the attorney admissions ceremony held yesterday morning at the CNMI Supreme Court. A product of University of Hawaii School of Law, she is currently an attorney at law at Carlsmith law firm.

Manglona, currently a law clerk in the Superior Court, finished law at Thomas M. Cooley



FERDIE DE LA TORRE
New CNMI Bar members, from left, Deanna M. Manglona, Richard C. Miller, and Daniel C. Stafford take the attorney's oath during yesterday's attorney admissions ceremony at the CNMI Supreme Court.

Law School. Her father, Senator Paul Manglona and mother, Lydia M. Manglona, were present in the ceremony.

Deanna Manglona said she

is glad, honored, and humbled to be a new member of the CNMI Bar. She thanked associate judge Kenneth L. Govendo for supporting her, and to her parents, family members, and

friends for believing in her.

Senator Manglona told *Saipan Tribune* that he is very proud of her daughter and thankful to the many people who helped her in the Bar examination.

Miller, who is an assistant public defender for four years now, finished law at the University of Colorado Law School.

Miller expressed his appreciation to chief public defender Adam Hardwicke for allowing him to take a leave for the Bar exam. The tearful Miller thanked his wife.

Stafford is presently an associate legal counsel for the Bridge Capital LLC. He used to be law clerk for the CNMI Supreme Court. He completed law at John Marshall Law School.

Stafford remembered fond memories with chief justice Demapan, and associate justices Alexandro Castro and John Manglona.

Woman suffers bone fracture to the arm in domestic violence

A woman suffered a bone fracture to the right arm after her husband allegedly beat her up at their residence in China Town on Sunday.

The victim was taken to the Commonwealth Health Center's emergency room.

Warren Ignacio Santy, 51, was arrested on Monday night in China Town for aggravated assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

The Superior Court initially imposed a \$10,000 cash bail for Santy's temporary release. The defendant was taken to court yesterday afternoon for initial court appearance.

Detective Catherine B. Pangelinan stated in her report that when a police officer responded to a call about an assault and battery case to CHC on Sunday night, the victim was observed crying of pain to the

right arm.

Pangelinan said the officer also observed two abrasions on the victim's right side of face.

Investigation showed that earlier that day, the victim was drinking at the party and fell asleep on the table.

The victim was awakened when Santy came and lifted her and started swinging her around, then threw her across

the table.

The victim landed hard face down on the concrete floor. Santy then left the house. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

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"Saipan is a wonderful community," Stafford said.

In his brief remarks, chief justice Demapan urged the new Bar members not to forget a very important responsibility of a lawyer—duty to volunteer your services.

"Your status as a lawyer in

this community means that you are also required to give back some of the energy gained back to your people," Demapan said.

He said by volunteering services to help a needy individual, or to help in the many community outreach programs, new lawyers will find out how such small help could have an impact on the children or on those that are at the fringes of society.

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BOE ON CAMPAIGN TO OUST MHS PRINCIPAL

‘Micromanagement is out of our business’

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The State Board of Education will not interfere on the current situation at the Marianas High School where a disgruntled teacher has called for the removal of principal Craig Garrison.

Education Board chair Marylou S. Ada said it is not the business of the

board to micromanage the schools.

Ada, who echoed the same position during a testimony at the Legislature yesterday, described the issue as “administrative matter” in nature which needs to be addressed under the proper channels.

Citing the PSS’ existing procedure, Ada said Garrison will be given due process by his immediate supervisor who is Education Commissioner Dr.

Rita A. Sablan.

“It’s a side base management and goes first to his immediate supervisor who is the commissioner. We don’t interfere at all because we don’t micromanage schools. The COE will take care of it and if not satisfied with the outcome, they it will go to the board for action,” she said.

Garrison was criticized for his lead-

ership and management practices at MHS which resulted in the reassignment of over 20 classroom teachers. The small protest which continued yesterday was staged by teacher James Yangetmai and his wife, Denita, who was among those reassigned by the principal last April 4.

The protesters demand the removal of Garrison from position to “protect” MHS. However, all allegations were denied by the principal last Tuesday.

According to James Yangetmai yesterday, the protest will continue until Garrison tenders his resignation.

Yangetmai said that he has tried to talk to the commissioner but failed to get a response.

The disgruntled teacher was firm in his position to demand the ouster of the principal.

“I am not here only because of my wife. I’ve been at MHS since 1985

and this is more than personal thing for me,” he told *Saipan Tribune*. Yangetmai claimed that in the second day of protest about 30 students visited them and expressed support for the group. He claimed that about five teachers have also expressed the same sentiment.

Garrison, meantime, told *Saipan Tribune* that a big assembly for the MHS community members and partners, including PTA, is slated for May 7 where he will present the factual records and data about the institution.

The purpose of the assembly, he said, is to provide the PTA and community members the “true and clear” picture about MHS and the direction where it is heading.

Records and data about teachers’ attendance and performances as well as students’ achievements and progress will be among the highlights of the principal’s presentation.

Audio of car chase of suspected big-time ‘ice’ dealer played

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The prosecution played in court yesterday the audio recording inside the vehicle of suspected big-time “ice” supplier Qun Yu allegedly taken during the car chase.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Generals Russell Lorfing and Tiberius Mocanu played the recording as Detective Dennis Reyes was on the witness stand.

The prosecutors provided copies of the transcript of the recording to the seven jurors before the recording was played.

Detective Reyes told the court that they put a recording device on the cooperating defendant, who was inside Yu’s Toyota Land Cruiser during the high speed chase in the afternoon of Aug. 4, 2010.

In the recording, the voice from the “cooperating defendant” apparently was negotiating to buy something from Yu and Yu’s girlfriend, Coco (Zhang Ling).

Later, a smashing sound of vehicles was heard followed by shouting of the “cooperating defendant” and other people.

The “cooperating defendant” was heard repeatedly telling Papasang (Yu) to pull over.

Yu and Coco were later heard talking in Chinese. The sound of speeding vehicle was heard in the background.

The “cooperating defendant” was later heard several times telling Papasang to slow down the vehicle. Police’s siren was also heard in the background.

In the end of the audio recording, a smashing sound was heard followed by shouting from people. It was at this juncture when Yu’s vehicle crashed into a trash at a private residence in Chalan Kiya.

On Tuesday, the prosecution played the videotaped part of Yu’s vehicle being chased members of the CNMI Drug Task Force and Department of Public Safety’s detectives that began near Subway in Gualo Rai, proceeded to Flametree Ter-

race Apartment in Capital Hill and back to the Middle Road.

Detective Reyes said in the recording, Yun instructed Coco to call a certain Linda.

Reyes said after the chase, he and other members of the team proceeded to Yu’s house in Gualo Rai where they found Linda.

Reyes said they were knocking on the house and later heard a flushing sound from the toilet.

He said Linda came out and told the officers she was using the restroom.

Reyes said they searched Yu’s house, but they did not find any “ice.”

Reyes said among those recovered in the house was a chunk of crystalline substance, but it was later found not “ice.”

Yesterday, Detective Roque Camacho, the assigned recorder of the Aug. 4 operation, also testified in court.

The trial of Yun will continue today. Attorney Stephen Woodruff is counsel for the defendant.

RECKLESS

From Page 1

the House gallery supported the ETC suspension bill, which they said will do more harm than good during these tough times.

Scott Norman, president of the Coalition of Private Schools, said he’s “extremely disappointed” with the bill’s passage.

Norman, who is also the principal of Calvary Christian Academy, said the House members who supported the bill didn’t take into consideration the concerns of private and public schools that will be negatively impacted by the bill.

“It’s not a well thought out bill, there was no real impact study made,” he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Norman said the coalition will lobby the governor not to sign the bill into law.

The Senate said it would be better to directly fund the Public School System rather than giving ETCs during periods of government austerity. The bill says during difficult economic times, the government cannot afford a tax credit that diminishes the overall money received in tax revenues.

Tempers flared as House members debated the bill, after hearing public comments from those in the gallery on Capital Hill.

Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan) said during the session that there’s one or two private schools allegedly abusing ETC funding and is now under probe. He said the ETC funding is allegedly used to benefit only the school(s) officials instead of students.

But Sablan said the House should not punish the rest of the private and public schools only because of the alleged wrongdoing of one or two private

schools. He said there’s a system to investigate and penalize violators of the ETC law.

Those who voted to suspend the ETC program were: Rep. Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan), floor leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Fred Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan), Rep. Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Sylvester Iguel (Cov-Saipan), Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogumoro (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan), Rep. Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Trenton Conner (R-Tinian), and Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan).

Those who voted against suspending the ETC bill were: House minority leader Diego Benavente (R-Saipan), Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (R-Saipan), Rep. Joseph Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan), Sablan, Rep. Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota), Rep. Ray Tebuteb (R-Saipan), and Rep. Ray Yumul (R-Saipan).

Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan) abstained from voting, while Rep. Ray Palacios (Cov-Saipan) was absent.

Benavente (R-Saipan) said it is “disturbing” for the bill to pass even though there’s overwhelming opposition to it from the individuals and institutions that will be directly affected if the measure becomes law.

He encouraged teachers, students, and parents to share their concerns with the governor.

Under the educational tax credit law, taxpayers could make cash contributions to qualifying educational institutions, including PSS and the Northern Marianas College, and receive a nonrefundable credit on their primary local taxes.

How long is ‘temporary suspension?’

Teachers and other officials from PSS

and the Coalition of Private Schools said ETC funding is a big help to schools who use the money to improve student learning.

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan, Board of Education member Herman Guerrero, BOE vice chair Tanya King, and Public School System federal programs officer Tom Thornburgh were among education officials who asked House members not to pass the bill.

Also among those who testified against passage of the bill were Saipan Seventh Day Adventist School’s Michael Berglund, Joycelyn Atalig of Rota High School, Marianas High School principal Craig Garrison, Pastor Ray Kinsella of Grace Christian Academy, former BOE member Roman Benavente, Saipan Community School principal Bobby Winkfield, parent Milagros Merjilla, and Garapan Elementary School principal Yvonne Pangelinan.

Many of them also doubted that the proposed suspension of the ETC program is “temporary.”

Guerrero said years back, it cost \$6,000 to educate a child; now it’s less than \$3,000.

He also said schools have already cut their spending, but not other branches or agencies of government.

At this point, Rep. Fred Deleon Guerrero said the Legislature has already taken a cut in allotment.

Based on information from House members, PSS received \$240,397.52 in ETC donations in fiscal year 2009 while private schools received \$962,382.77.

In FY 2010, PSS received \$240,892.02, while private schools got \$708,588.22.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce had also asked the House not to pass the ETC suspension bill.

KILILI

From Page 1

28, 2011.

Instead, there will be ample time provided so that foreign workers will be applied for a temporary CNMI-only transitional worker (CW) classification when the regulations come out.

He said the U.S. Department of Homeland Security is still working on the regulations which will be released before Nov. 28, 2011 when so-called CNMI-issued umbrella permits expire.

“Workers will be fine,” he told reporters yesterday. “DHS will have no

reason to send everybody home.”

DHS missed yet again its self-imposed deadline of March 2011 to issue the CW regulations.

Sablan also said what he encourages DHS to do is deport criminals, who won’t be qualify for a CW classification that will allow them to remain in the CNMI.

At the same time, he said his H.R. 1466, which proposes a “CNMI-only resident status” for four specific groups of individuals, will be up for hearing soon.

He said he will work hard to ensure that his bill passes the U.S. House and Senate.

DOC

From Page 1

This was among the recommendations made by the independent Virginia-based firm, Management Analysis Inc., which reviewed both DCCA and the Department of Public Safety.

The governor’s fiscal year 2012 budget submission also reflected a merger of DPS and DOC.

MAI’s organization review, funded by federal grants, made recommendations for improved DCCA operational efficiency, improvement in the current DCCA level of service, assurances that all local and federal laws and regulations are being complied with, and to produce cost savings.

“Based on feedback from employees and management, its observations, expertise and analysis, MAI recommends that as part of a DCCA reorganization, the management and control of the JDU be transferred to DOC,” the governor said.

Fital said because JDU and DOC have a rehabilitation focus, there is an opportunity for shared resources.

He also said DOC has a particular expertise in management of correctional facilities.

The governor’s Executive Order 2011-04 becomes effective immediately.

The executive order remains in effect unless 60 days after submission to the Legislature, it is specifically modified or disapproved by a majority of the members of each house of the Legislature.

“While I am transferring the administration and management functions of the JDU to DOC, physical plants of the JDU and DOC shall remain separate and distinct entities. There shall be no commingling of the JDU juvenile population and the DOC adult population,” Fital said in his three-page executive order.

The governor ordered that the DOC commissioner, in conjunction with the Division of Youth Services director, shall be responsible for the services and programs for juveniles falling within the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Justice Act of 2008 pursuant to Section 4(a) of the Act.

All personnel transferred pursuant to the executive order maintain their current positions and status in the classified civil service or in the excepted service as the case may be.

Unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations, allotments, or other funds available for the use of JDU on the effective date of the transfer are transferred to DOC on the effective date of the transfer.

The governor tasked the Criminal Justice Planning Agency to monitor the transfer directed in the executive order.

“CJPA is to ensure that no federal funds or federally purchased equipment are jeopardized as a result of this transfer; and that there is strict compliance with grant requirements during and after the transfer,” he said.

The governor also said CJPA is to consult with the DCCA secretary and the DOC commissioner to that extent.

“I anticipate a cooperative spirit between DCCA and DOC,” he added.

DCCA, in response to growing demands from residents and the CNMI, has taken on the responsibility of numerous human service type activities including the Office on Aging, the Nutrition Assistance Program, the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture, the Division of Sports and Recreation, the Historic Preservation Office, and the Chamorro/Carolinian Language Policy Commission.

Some lawmakers said yesterday they have yet to fully digest the executive order to comment on it. They added that they have 60 days from yesterday to modify or reject it if they so choose.

Fund: Judiciary's loan payments behind by \$303K

» **PSS not paying rent, utilities for 6 months**

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Two government agencies are behind in their obligations to the NMI Retirement Fund and if collected, would give nearly

\$500,000 in revenue that would aid the pension program in dealing with its expenditures to members.

The board of trustees disclosed in a meeting yesterday that the Judiciary is three months behind in payment for its loan, accruing \$303,000 in total arrears as of this month. The Public School System is

also behind its building rent and utilities for the past six months, estimated at over \$180,000 to date or from October 2010 to April 2011.

The Judicial Building Financing Act of 1994 allowed the CNMI government to secure a \$13.8 million loan from the NMI Retirement Fund in order to build the Guma Hustisia in Susupe. The primary source of repayment would come from revenues generated by the Judiciary. The loan has a maturity date of Aug. 14, 2015.

The judicial building loan is one of the Fund's four local investments and has been cited as one of the investments that are at risk.

Fund administrator Richard Villagomez said yesterday that

besides the delinquent monthly payment from the judiciary, it was also revealed that the reserve account for the loan has already been exhausted by the judiciary.

He said the loan agreement required the maintenance of a three-month reserve account under the custody of the Finance secretary.

To date, only \$500 was discovered under the said reserve account.

Last fiscal year, the judiciary was also behind for several months as a result of the courts' declining revenues. However, collections improved later until a new delinquency was noted. The judiciary is obligated to pay \$118,000 monthly for the said loan.

Villagomez said the issue has been communicated with Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos for resolution. However, he admitted that no concrete action has been taken on the issue.

Meantime, the board of trustees expressed their hesitation on "renegotiating" the rental agreement with PSS after they were informed that the system is behind by six months in its payment.

Villagomez disclosed that PSS, which leased the second and third floors of the Retirement Fund Building, is obligated to pay an average of \$20,000 monthly, excluding power and water consumption by its central offices.

PSS pays an average of \$10,000 every month for utilities. However, Fund officials

disclosed that since the beginning of the fiscal year PSS has yet to pay anything. Estimated unpaid utility obligation to the Fund is \$63,000.

By arrangement, the Fund pays the utilities for the whole building and PSS reimburses them.

Villagomez disclosed that PSS has already proposed a new contract for the building rent. The board needs to take action.

Fund chair Sixto Igisomar recommended that the PSS issue be thoroughly discussed in the executive session.

Meantime, PSS finance director Richard Waldo acknowledged the unpaid obligation to the Fund.

"We will pay all our obligations...and we're now in the process of preparing them," he told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday, adding that some federal monies may be tapped for the obligation.

NMI's strategic and operational plan for HIE project approved

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Public Health received two good news this week after it was informed by federal agencies that the CNMI's strategic and operational plan for Health Information Exchange project has been approved, while the hospital's resource patient management system was also approved as certified electronic health record.

Esther Muna, public health acting deputy secretary for hospital administration and health information exchange coordinator, described the development as giant steps for the HIE project.

"The certification of resource patient management system and approval of our strategic plan are indeed giant steps for the CNMI health information exchange project. They are necessary steps in obtaining the financial incentives from Medicare and in providing resources for improvement in CNMI's health care," said Muna yesterday, adding that the approval and certification were received last April 21.

Saipan Tribune learned that the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, under the U.S. Department of Health and Human

Services, announced the approval for the strategic and operational plan for health information exchange. Muna said the approval freed up \$800,000 in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grant money that will be spent within four years.

The strategic and operational plan seeks to improve patient care and safety and the effectiveness and efficiency of the CNMI health care system through the use of health information technology. It encouraged the use of electronic health record systems by health care providers and public health agencies, and to plan, implement, and sustainably maintain a secure health information exchange capability connected to the National Health Information Network. The plan builds on the capacity of local and regional exchange efforts.

Meantime, the resource patient management system Suite 1.0 has been certified as a complete electronic health record for ambulatory and inpatient settings.

Under ARRA, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services is authorized to offer incentive payments to hospitals and eligible providers demonstrating meaningful use of certified electronic health record technology.

'Alleged scheme actually case of couple tourists gone wild'

Attorney Michael Evangelista, court-appointed counsel for a woman who was arrested for an alleged fraudulent scheme that invited Chinese nationals to come to Saipan to work at non-existing jobs, said yesterday that this is actually a case of "a couple tourists gone wild."

Evangelista told *Saipan Tribune* that based on his preliminary review of the complaint and the allegations, and initial interview with defendant Hequian Ma, he learned that a husband and wife couple, both Chinese nationals, came to the CNMI pretending to be tourists, when in fact they were in a clandestine job search.

"When their illegal job search gone awry, in order to avoid being charged for overstaying in the CNMI or for some other immigration violations, they instead blame my client, Ms. Hequian Ma,

for their presence here in the CNMI," Evangelista said.

From the affidavit of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement special agent, the lawyer pointed out, it is clear that the couple came to the CNMI pretending to be tourists.

Evangelista said when confronted by a Customs and Border Protection officer, the couple denied that they were here for work and claimed they were here as tourists.

The officer allowed them to enter the CNMI and also instructed them not to work because if they do they will be arrested.

"Two months later, after their clandestine job search did not work out as they had planned, they go to the local Homeland Security office and complained that my client defrauded them in this job search," he said. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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House passes beneficiary derivative lawsuit bill

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House of Representatives passed yesterday on a vote of 15-4 a substitute version of a bill that allows beneficiaries of trusts and retirement fund programs to take legal action on behalf of trusts or the NMI Retirement Fund when trustees who manage them refuse to bring such actions.

The Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations chaired by Rep. Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan) recommended the passage of Senate Bill 17-43, Senate Draft 1, House Substitute 1.

Demapan, during the session, said the substitute bill "eliminates" criticism hurled against

the original bill.

Among other things, the substitute bill on the beneficiary derivative act is a new section "limiting the right to sue."

This new section does not give retirees the right to sue the CNMI government "to force government contributions to the Northern Mariana Island Retirement Fund."

Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (R-Saipan), one of the four members who voted against the bill yesterday, said the proposal would in effect second-guess the actions and omissions of the Fund board of trustees if the bill is enacted into law.

He said it also appears that the bill is pushed solely to bypass the Fund board of trustees to allow the filing of a lawsuit

against one of the Fund's past money managers—Merrill Lynch—for negligent investment of Fund moneys entrusted to that money manager.

Dela Cruz also said Fund members should not be treated as stockholders.

"What's the point for having the Fund board of trustees if someone beside the Fund trustees could perform the work of the Fund, like suing its money manager for negligence in the investment of Fund monies?" he added.

Besides Dela Cruz, the others who voted against SB 17-43, SD1, HS1 were Rep. Fred Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogomoro (Cov-Saipan) and floor leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan).

The rest voted in favor of the bill, while only one was absent—Rep. Ray Palacios (Cov-Saipan).

Attorney Robert O'Connor, after the vote, said he's happy that the bill passed.

"I encourage the governor to sign it. This allows the retirees now to recover tens of millions of dollars from Meryll Lynch that will go directly to the Fund. So this is a happy day for all the retirees," he said.

The Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations chaired by Rep. Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan) recommends that the House pass Senate Bill 17-43, Senate Draft 1 in the form of House Substitute 1.

The substitute version also thoroughly discusses the im-

portance of the measure in its findings section, and clearly establishes the forms of trusts and funds covered by the bill. It also rewrites certain sections to ensure clarity and intent and make technical changes.

Demapan's JGO Committee also recommends House passage of House Bill 17-162 in its current form. This bill creates a CNMI Computer Crime Act of 2011.

The committee also recom-

mends passage in its current form of HB 17-146, which seeks to ensure the CNMI government's timely processing and prompt payment of vendors.

Rep. Ray Basa's (Cov-Saipan) Ways and Means Committee, meanwhile, recommends passage of HB 17-110 in its current form.

This bill provides restrictions on the transfer of fixed assets and capital goods bought by either house of the Legislature.

Labor affirms denial of woman's IR application

»Woman's marriage found to be void; date of birth incorrect

Labor administrative hearing officer Barry Hirshbein has affirmed the denial of an application to renew the Immediate Relative status filed by a woman who provided Labor with incorrect information for several years about her date of birth.

Hirshbein ordered that Labor shall not process the IR renewal application of Virginia Babauta and shall not amend her date of birth.

"The hearing officer is not inclined to facilitate that application by correcting years of false reporting," he said.

Hirshbein provided a copy of his order to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

The administrative hearing officer conducted the hearing on Babauta's request for relief on March 17, 2011.

Labor records show that Virginia Babauta and Alejo Babauta were first married in September 2008. They applied for and were granted IR status for Virginia Babauta.

The IR permit expired on Oct. 17, 2009. No application for renewal of IR status was made after the expiration of the original permit.

Virginia Babauta testified that she lost her permit but never came back to Labor to find out what she could do. She never sought assistance from any agency until long after the permit expiration.

Virginia Babauta did not receive a transitional conditional permit (umbrella permit). She gave many excuses for not seeking help with her problem.

In his order, Hirshbein said upon questioning it was disclosed that the first marriage between the parties was not a valid marriage.

Hirshbein said a copy of the first marriage license from September 2008 was entered into evidence.

On the application, the hearing officer pointed out, it shows that the sponsor Alejo Babauta did not disclose his prior marriage.

As it turns out, Hirshbein

said, the prior marriage was still in effect when the marriage to Virginia Babauta took place.

Had this fact been disclosed to Labor, the application for IR would not have been granted, Hirshbein said.

The hearing officer said more than two years lapsed before Virginia and Alejo Babauta entered into another marriage. On the application dated Jan. 12, 2011, Alejo Babauta did not disclose the prior marriage and termination by divorce.

Virginia and Alejo Babauta then submitted a renewal application of the IR permit.

"The renewal was properly denied. The parties were not lawfully married at the time of the original application in 2008," Hirsbein said.

He ruled that the marriage was void and the permit was not properly granted.

"There cannot be a renewal of an act that could not be lawfully recognized," he said.

On the issue of the change of date of birth requested by Virginia Babauta, Hirshbein said, it was disclosed that she came to the CNMI in 1990.

Virginia Babauta's passport showed her date of birth as Jan. 26, 1962. She now requests that her date of birth be corrected to reflect her true date of birth as Jan. 26, 1953.

Hirshbein said when Virginia Babauta first came to the CNMI she knew that her date of birth was not correct.

He said she renewed her work permits annually and continued to give incorrect information to Labor.

He said Virginia Babauta renewed her Philippine passport several times with the incorrect date of birth.

"Now, 18 years later she is seeking assistance of Labor to correct her problem. She gave many reasons why she was now seeking correction, none rang true," the hearing officer said.

Finally, Hirshbein said, Virginia Babauta stated that she needed to correct the record so that she could obtain a "green card." (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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Fund's investment portfolio at \$325M

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund disclosed yesterday that its investment portfolio has made progress in the last few months yielding total fund assets of \$325 million as of March 3, 2011.

Fund administrator Richard Villagomez described as "good" the overall performance of both the market and its money managers in handling the agency's investment.

The Fund currently has nine money managers who handle its asset allocation. Its net assets are invested in stock and money market fund, government bonds, corporate bonds, common stocks, and hedge fund.

Villagomez disclosed that the portfolio excluded the agency's local investments that include the Member Home Loan Program, investment in Group

Health Life Insurance, judicial building, and the Commonwealth Government Employee Credit Union.

Although overall market performance yielded positive points, the administrator admitted that a number of the money managers underperformed in their respective benchmarks such as money manager Atlanta, which slightly underperformed in the two benchmarks.

The board also disclosed that it is also liquidating assets handled by money manager JP Morgan after it showed poor performance. It was learned that from the original \$21 million portfolio from the said money manager, the Fund has only \$3 million to date under the account after several liquidations in the past.

Meantime, Villagomez reported yesterday to the board of trustees that the agency has posted a total of \$29.7 million drawdown

as of April 19. Drawdown is used to pay pension benefits of members and other obligations. Last fiscal year 2010, the Fund reported some \$14 million "savings" in its projected drawdown as a result of the increase contribution received from the government and remittance of taxes pursuant to the court judgment.

This fiscal year, the administrator disclosed that Fund anticipates about an \$800,000 shortfall in the drawdown until end of September.

The board approved a \$54.2 million authorized withdrawal from investment fund for FY 2011. However, Villagomez said because of the delayed employer contribution from the central government, withdrawal will exceed by \$800,000 the authorized drawdown amount.

The Fund has recorded an average monthly drawdown of around \$2.4 million.



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- You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply.
- People with severely compromised immune systems, infants, and some elderly may be at increased risk. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

What does this mean?

This is not an immediate risk. Usually, coliforms are a sign that there could be a problem with the system's treatment or distribution system (pipes). Whenever we detect coliform bacteria in any sample, we do follow-up testing to see if other bacteria of greater concern, such as fecal coliform or E. coli, are present. **We did not find any of these bacteria in our subsequent testing.**

Coliforms are bacteria which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

What is being done?

Leaks were detected and repaired in the following areas: Chanda Lane in Kagman 1, Kagman Road near Makupa Place, Chalan Santa Lourdes near Donni Springs and at Natibu and Independence in Lower Dandan. Operators modified the distribution system as they repair a well supplying Gualo Rai. Water operators increased treatment and additional samples collected in the affected areas on April 5 and April 18, 2011 were free of coliform bacteria showing that this problem has been resolved.

For more information, please contact Heidi Yelin at (670) 322-5140 or Mariano Iglecias at 322-5030 or 322-5031 or PO Box 501220 Saipan, MP 96950.

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Hard Rock Café Saipan to mark World Wish Day with fundraiser

Hard Rock Café Saipan and Make-A-Wish Foundation Guam-CNMI Chapter will team up for the first time for an eventful celebration of World Wish Day on April 29.

According to Hard Rock Café Saipan operations manager Reynaldo Perez exciting performances await Hard Rock diners who will join them in celebrating World Wish Day from 11am to 1pm.

Perez said Friday's celebration, which is a whole day event, will be highlighted by the Airline Mileage Drive.

The Airline Mileage Drive aims to gather airline miles from community members to be used to grant the wishes of three children from CNMI and Guam.

Perez said those who will donate their miles on Friday can enjoy 20 percent discount on all menu items.

Besides the Airline Mileage Drive, Perez said they will also have another fundraising to benefit Make-A-Wish Foundation by selling the limited-edition "Ringo Starr Signature Series: Edition 28."

Perez added that cash and in-kind donations for the Make-A-Wish Foundation will also be accepted during Friday's event. (Clarissa V. David)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

April 28, 1999

Teno calls for tighter use of govt cars

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday renewed calls to government employees to restrict the use of taxpayer-provided vehicles to official purposes as a way of curbing waste and abuse of government resources. The governor made fresh efforts seeking compliance to existing laws that regulates the use of government cars in light of the recommendation by the Office of Public Auditor for stricter implementation to avoid widespread misuse. OPA noted in its 1998 Annual Report that such practice was widespread during the past administration "because of lack of commitment by most agency heads to implement the requirements."

CPA criticized for dragging its feet on incentives

Senate Vice President Thomas P. Villagomez yesterday criticized the Commonwealth Ports Authority for being "slow" in providing incentives to airlines servicing the Northern Marianas, saying the government has been requesting them this package since last year. While CPA has agreed to slash by half the arrival and departure fees paid by the airlines, the senator believed this is not enough as the Aviation Task Force has been asking also a cut in the landing fees. "CPA has been very slow in providing these incentives," Villagomez told in an interview, noting the task force, of which he is a member, has prodded ports authority to offer incentive package to airlines since last year to help them cope with the economic crisis.

April 28, 2000

Teno assures funding for PCB health testing

Public Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez yesterday said the scheduled health evaluation on May 8 in Tanapag village to find out people's level of exposure to polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) will push through as Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio assured him that funding will be made available for the project. Since most of the people in Tanapag will be covered by the medical evaluation, Mr. Villagomez said this will be an opportunity to make an overall assessment of the health condition of the residents. The Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry will provide expertise in handling the problem while the U.S. Department of the Interior is still looking at the possibility of providing funding for the testing.

Senator wants more economic aid for CNMI

The chair of the Senate Federal and Foreign Relations Committee is eyeing more U.S. funding for the Commonwealth government for various infrastructure projects and local economic programs. In preparation for this step, Sen. David M. Cing has asked the Department of Commerce to produce a detailed report on the financial aid granted by the U.S. Economic Development Administration to the CNMI to see how these funds have been spent. Sen. David M. Cing made the request to Commerce Sec. Frankie B. Villanueva as part of his efforts to seek funding for critical projects needed by the Commonwealth government.

April 28, 2003

Hakubotan directed to pay \$1.69 million

Hakubotan, which used to be Saipan's second biggest duty-free shop before ceasing operations locally, may be in for further distress, after the Guam Superior Court ordered it to pay close to \$1.7 million to a private firm. Judge Michael J. Bordallo declared Hakubotan in default, in a lawsuit filed by the Guam Marine Salvage Services Inc. The judge also issued the judgment against businessmen Toshio and Hideko Okuhama, and Takayuki and Yuichi Takayama. The Hakubotan shop in San Jose was legally registered as Hakubotan Saipan Enterprises Inc. Its mother company, Hakubotan Enterprises Inc., is based on Guam.

NMI urged to begin observing EMSC Day

Sen. Pete P. Reyes is hoping to mark 2003 as the first year that the CNMI would observe the National Emergency Medical Services for Children Day. In a pre-filed resolution, the Saipan senator endorsed the event—slated for May 21, 2003—as a fitting day to honor the organization that provides life-saving services to future leaders. In promoting the occasion's observance, Reyes noted that 853 children—both pediatric and adolescent—were transported by professional and competent emergency medical technicians and paramedics to the Commonwealth Health Center in 2002 alone. He further acknowledged that EMSC supports the Emergency Management Service, the community-based public service whose presence is vital to children in need.



Republic of the Philippines COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS ABSENTEE VOTING MANILA

NOTICE OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTION TO ALL FILIPINO CITIZENS

Notice is hereby given that under Republic Act No. 9189, otherwise known as "The Overseas Absentee Voting Act of 2003", all citizens of the Philippines abroad, not otherwise disqualified by law, at least eighteen (18) years of age on the day of the election, and who are registered overseas absentee voters with approved application to vote *in absentia*, may vote for Senators and Party-List Representatives. For this purpose, all qualified Filipino citizens not registered as voters under Republic Act No. 8189, otherwise known as "The Voters Registration Act of 1996", (the system of continuing registration) shall file an application for registration while those who are already registered under the said Act shall file an application for certification.

For purposes of the May 13, 2013 elections, the filing of applications for registration/certification and transfer of registration records shall be filed at the Post or other designated registration areas **from October 31, 2011 to October 31, 2012.**

The 30-day voting period will commence on **April 13, 2013 until 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon (Philippine time) of May 13, 2013 at any Philippine embassy or consulate.** (The time for voting to be announced later.)

For details, please contact the Philippine Consulate General at telephone number 234-1848, 234-1850 or 234-1851 or the following websites:

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EDITORIAL

Nuclear power's future

Although experts still do not understand clearly what went wrong, the disaster at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear installation has sparked understandable fears about nuclear safety and a debate that will have significant consequences for the future of our energy needs.

Nuclear industry officials have been at pains to proclaim that the 104 U.S. nuclear power plants are safe. One compelling piece of evidence they cite is that, globally, nuclear plants have close to 15,000 reactor-years of experience, with known severe accidents limited to five commercial power reactors—three of them in Fukushima and only one, at Three Mile Island, in the United States.

As impressive as that seems, skeptics point out that one nuclear accident is one too many. Indeed, the event at Three Mile Island was so traumatic that it froze the industry in its tracks for three decades, going on four.

Now, as a result of Fukushima, the Tennessee Valley Authority says it is considering improvements for the six nuclear reactors it operates because of “potential vulnerabilities from a chain of events.” Meanwhile, power producer NRG, which was planning the largest nuclear project in the country, announced it was giving up plans for two giant reactors in Texas and writing off its \$331 million investment.

The future of the nuclear-power industry is of crucial importance to South Florida because energy provider FPL says it needs to add two reactors at Turkey Point in South Miami-Dade to cover projected electrical power requirements for a growing population.

Last week, FPL executives offered assurances to a delegation of four local members of Congress that it was prepared for any conceivable eventuality and that comparisons with Fukushima were off the mark. Turkey Point has a different design, was built by a different company (Westinghouse, not GE), and is powered by different fuel (uranium, not plutonium).

Unlike the Japanese plant, Turkey Point is not located in an earthquake zone, and getting hit by a tsunami is far-fetched, if not impossible, given the barrier formed by the Bahamas chain. The plant has already survived a direct hit from a Category 5 hurricane (Andrew, 1992) and the accompanying storm surge. And FPL plans to build a “dry” storage facility for spent fuel rods—an improvement TVA is just now contemplating—to reduce the risk of a leak.

As long as there are an infinite number of things that can go wrong and only a finite number of preventative measures, nuclear power will never be 100-percent safe. But given existing technology, the increasing needs for power generation and the desire for clean sources of energy, nuclear power cannot be ruled out as a viable option. The industry's safety record and its obvious self-interest in avoiding accidents speak for themselves.

But before going forward, two actions are critical.

- First, FPL must undertake a campaign to inform the public about nuclear power and its safety measures. The public is right to be worried, and without its support nuclear power has no future.

- Second, as Mayor Philip Stoddard of South Miami wrote in a letter to The Miami Herald published on Sunday, “Miami-Dade County is grossly unprepared to deal with a significant radiation release.”

Can't happen here? Probably right, but who wants to take a chance? South Florida is so congested, and avenues of evacua-

See NUCLEAR on Next Page

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KIRK



Business anorexia

It seems obvious that businesses need to take care of their customers in order to grow and prosper; however, it's amazing how many organizations engage in “business anorexia” as their primary strategy to deal with the downturn in the economy. This describes the extreme leanness that organizations put themselves through, and that weakens their ability to compete. If continued, it creates a downward spiral that causes a business to go through these steps: 1) Rising prices and a weakened economy prompts cost-cutting measures because it provides immediate relief on the bottom line; 2) lowering costs means stretching out the resources and cutting investment for long-term growth, and possibly laying off employees; 3) this leads to a demoralized workforce that spends more time worrying about their jobs rather than focusing on the customers; 4) the organization develops an internal focus and disconnection with the customer; 5) which impacts the customer's experience negatively and causes them to shop around for other options; 6) which reduces sales, and 7) and causes the organization to operate on paper-thin margins or at a loss; 8) which leads to further cost cutting... and so the cycle continues.

A business must understand three best practices in order to reverse this downward spiral: First, they must know what they do best or better than any other business; second, they must hire the best people who love doing what they do best; and third, they must thoroughly understand and deliver what their best customers value. The intersection of these three areas will create a significant differentiating factor for your business and cause it to become the obvious choice. Let's look at these three dynamic aspects in more detail.

First, know what you do best—and become even better at doing it. Be creative and innovative so that you can continue to improve. Monitor your competition to know what they offer to their customers. Do some research or visit businesses similar to yours when you travel, and take notes from your visits. Sam Walton of Wal-Mart was constantly looking for better ways to do what Wal-Mart did best. He would visit his numerous stores and take notes; visit the competition and take notes, then implement the best ideas throughout the stores. It can sometimes be a mistake to expand your product or service offering too far, and thus dilute your core competence.

When you fully understand what you do best, it's important to find and hire people who love doing what you do best. Nordstrom's No. 1 customer service strategy was to be meticulous about hiring the right people and then training them to sell—not hiring good

By RIK VILLEGAS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Rik Villegas is a writer, life-long learner, and business instructor at Northern Marianas College. He can be contacted at RikVillegas@gmail.com, and you can comment on this article at <http://rikv.blogspot.com>.



salespeople and training them to be nice. You need to find people who genuinely like working and serving your customers, and who make customers feel important and valued. Nordstrom's philosophy is to “hire the smile, train the skill.”

I've worked with several organizations that are very careful about who they hire. Whenever they meet someone working at another business who has great customer service skills, they will make a note about that person and if a position opens up, they will invite him or her to apply.

What do you do if you have people who don't appear to love doing what you do best and are not good working with your customers? If you've tried to coach and train them to become better customer service reps, then you might need to find other work for them, possibly in a support role.

The third factor is to perhaps the most important. You have to identify your best customers and deliver what they truly value. This process requires a mental shift from being transaction-oriented to becoming more customer outcome focused. Customers don't just buy goods and services; they buy what those products do for them, or the outcome they expect. If you can understand that outcome and exceed their expectations, then you will be able to deliver greater value to them, which will develop greater customer loyalty.

Once these three factors are operating within your business, you will be able to reverse the downward spiral and instead of cutting costs, you'll have the additional revenue to train your staff, create greater job security and allow them to focus on your customers by providing the resources they need to fully serve them. When your customers feel like they are getting greater value from your business, it will differentiate your business from the numerous competitors who sell similar goods or services, and it will cure business anorexia by allowing you to have an organization that is well-fed from the growing sales of customers.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Casino gambling through local law is not unconstitutional

All of us here in this House are descendants of proud and self-reliant islanders and warriors, who have survived in the Micronesian islands for centuries. They withstood storms, typhoon, food shortages, sickness, and foreign invasions.

And now we sit here faced with a far less dangerous but still a modern man-made calamity of fiscal deficits and a struggling economy, and some of us do not want to take a calculated gamble with an industry that will provide jobs, potentially large tax revenues, and major growth in our struggling tourism sector.

Some of us are shaking in our modern warrior outfits of J.C. Penny shirts and Walmart ties, and afraid of moving our island forward. After the pre-filling of House Local Bill 17-44, to authorize casino gambling establishments for the Third Senatorial District, I have heard plenty of comments, mostly positive. Of course, we have our opposition crying that it's unconstitutional, that it will cause prostitution, that it will cause gambling that will affect our people.

My fellow colleagues please realize that it's not unconstitutional to apply our wisdom to interpret man-made laws for a solution to assist in our islands' struggles. Casino gambling through local law is not unconstitutional, as both our House counsels have attested to. Casino gambling will not introduce prostitution to Saipan; it is already here and will be here indefinitely. Gambling that affects our people is already here in the seedy poker establishments. Gambling is also here in the form of cockfighting, batu, church bingo, Las

Vegas nights, in our home with card games, in the office with sport betting, it's EVERYWHERE!

So why not allow a regulated and professional casino industry to thrive here in our beautiful tourist island of Saipan. Why not allow an industry here that will provide much-needed revenues for our medical referral, student scholarships, retirement fund, low income CUC assistance, promotion fund for MVA, and more through discretionary funding from our other needs, our youth programs and our schools. Our past leaders in the Second Con-Con of 1985 went on record to state that after an early gambling law was defeated by referendum, things had drastically changed for the worse. Today, we continue the bad days with the cost of living sky rocketing, our CUC bills are outrageous, gasoline costs are numbing, medical referrals are in serious jeopardy, our retirement fund is collapsing, our students are being denied scholarships, our government workers are facing 32-hour work weeks with more cuts to come, and there will be RIFs.

In the past, the late Honorable Con-Con member Jesus Mafnas made comments about these serious economic problems in 1985, and he went on to say that even the church did not take a position with the gambling issue, remaining neutral on an issue that is so common place in our daily lives. We are on the verge of a major economic tragedy, and isn't that a major gamble with the security and well being of our island residents. With economic collapse, how will our community survive, by stealing and civil unrest? Therefore, I am asking or better, I am demanding the opposition to this

By STANLEY T. MCGINNIS TORRES
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Stanley T. McGinnis Torres is a member of the CNMI House of Representatives. He delivered this privileged speech during Tuesday's House session on Capital Hill.



bill to immediately offer their solutions. For the record now, name an industry or business that we can promote within these coming months to alleviate the suffering of the people. If you cannot name an industry, then don't be an impediment to our people's future. Our ancestors gambled everyday in their quest for survival. What are the present day detractors afraid of? We were elected to present the people, and they depend on us to make decisions, sometimes to even take chances.

This Third Senatorial District legislation before you is a product of Saipan and the Northern Island's vital need for economic stimulus and a recovery from our current downfall into social and economic oblivion. I ask you to support this legislation, so we can move it into the Saipan Northern Islands Legislative Delegation, where we can immediately promote Saipan-wide public hearings, to give the people of Saipan another chance to support or deny this legislation. Thank you.

Letters to the Editor

The gang that can't shoot straight

So the NMC Board of Regents has lost its third and final hope for a college president. And in the meantime most of its search committee has resigned (though what their function was in the search, which was handled by an off-island agency, is unclear). That a new search can be done and a president found before the WASC accrediting commission's final decision in late June is highly unlikely. Unless, in desperation, the board makes a hasty on-island hire. Or unless it resurrects the recommendation of the previous search committee, whose findings were summarily—and insultingly—dis-

missed, and hires Rik Villegas, an NMC business instructor of some 15 years, whose credentials are sterling, who is respected by all who know him, and who is fully cognizant of the college's strengths and weaknesses.

How did NMC get to this point? I taught English at the college from 1995 until retirement just this past January and worked under every president, actual or acting, it has had. I found teaching at NMC the best job I'd ever held. Initially, I loved the place, and even as its administration began to crumble and its morale tumble some

years ago, I still enjoyed the great mix of local and international students. The kids in the classroom kept my spirits up.

But with the appointment of the last president (picked from far down the list of that search committee's choices) with an autocratic management style, things began to go rapidly to hell. Some of the best, most experienced and dedicated personnel the college had, both faculty and staff, were squeezed out, fired or non-renewed, and without any real due process. Standards eroded. And there has been such a high turnover since that hardly a single current key manager has been in position for at least two years. Though I dearly hope not, for I'm still fond of the old place, I'm afraid the damage done to NMC, placed on show-cause twice within two years, may well be irreparable. More than a pity, a crime. The Commonwealth deserves a decent college.

Bruce T. Johnson
San Vicente

Viva mayor

I want to congratulate Mayor Donald Flores for his measure that required dog owners to register their dogs and get them tagged. It was a big help to generate money for our economy. What about the stray dogs? They still posted a big problem in the community.

I recently saw a woman walking down the street then a dog attacked and bit the woman. She called police to complain but no one among the witnesses cooperated to identify the dog owner.

They told the police officers that the owner had left the island. Stray dogs also pose another big health problem in the community when they pull garbage packages from the garbage bins and scatter their contents all over the place.

Teddy Guiao
Navy Hill

NUCLEAR

From Page 10

tion so limited, that the public deserves reassurance on this front, as well. FPL, together with county officials and emergency planners, have a duty to bring the public up to date about plans for the possibility of a nuclear accident.

This week marks the 25th anniversary of the nuclear disaster at Chernobyl, the worst ever. The area near the Ukrainian site is still a no-man's land, and the final accounting of damage remains unknown. It's a good time to redouble efforts to ensure that there are no more Chernobyls—and to be prepared if there are.

What's the next step?

Beyond the recognition that House Bill 17-181 appears unconstitutional and therefore unlawful as violating equal rights of all voters in favor of racist and unlawful electoral favoritism, perhaps the proponents of CNMI-Guam cultural reunification should take the next rational step.

Forget mere CNMI-Guam reunification, that is.

Instead, have the CNMI and Guam reunify with the country most directly connected both culturally and historically to both the CNMI and Guam—including, most particularly, the political/social ruling elite of both locales, past and present.

Of course, that country is the Philippines—home of so many thousands bearing surnames like Calvo, Tenorio, Camacho, Aldan, Cabrerra, Sablan, Tudela, and Santos, in contrast to the hundreds so-named here in LanyaLand.

Or maybe Mexico, from which originated galleon crews themselves the ancestors of so many CNMI/Guam households today—bearing surnames like Villagomez, Torres, Dela Cruz, and Villanueva.

Or, heck: perhaps Spain wants in on consideration—after all, it

was the grants of Spanish Crown land, to Spanish/Mexican elite, which even today is reflected in large land holdings by regional family clans now comprising the CNMI/Guam politically controlling and social blue bloods, who themselves feign “Chamorro” ancestry under guise of “local” pride, while U.S. taxpayer funded.

Query, though—will those of Carolinian descent be required to return, now, for reunification with their relatives in Yap or Chuuk or elsewhere. Will Gov. Benigno R. Fitial lead the first canoe home, where “traditional” medicine in lieu of U.S. surgery will be the norm for his spineless disorder?

Basta! Maybe better to just cash-buy the CNMI and Guam to China, take the cash-buy moneys to Pagan, and resurrect what all might then agree is uniquely “Chamorro” in culture focused, by some today, on hatred, disdain, and wheedling of “them” in favor of race-based-preferences and entitlements for “us.”

Bruce Jorgensen
Via email

Eddie of Chalan Kanoa, friends of Danny and Rolly of Garapan, L.D. Prime Wholesale, The Water Company, Leche's Tents and Chairs, friends of Wally, and all the members and friends of Bicol Association who devoted their time and efforts serving iced cooled water and assorted foods to the devotees who drop-by to refresh their thirst as they ascend and descend to and from the highest peak of Mt. Tapochao.

To everyone, thank you. Mabalos.

Carlito J. Marquez
Bianmi, Inc. secretary

Thank you!






The Bicol Association in Northern Marana Islands, Inc. (Bianmi, Inc.), which marked its 11th year of serving free food and drinks to all devotees on the trek going up Mt. Tapochao, would like to thank all the donors for their overwhelming support that made the association's community service a success.

Bianmi, Inc. Council of Past Presidents, and its members would like to thank the following donors: Well-Integrated Resources & Electrical Services (WIRES), Cool Care Auto Air Conditioning, Coca Cola Micronesia, Philippine Consulate General and staff, SJ Auto Shop, Jeff and Edward Navarro, Rogelio Deduin, Liza, and Gil of SJ, Jenny (a devotee), friends of Jaye, friends of Teddy and

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

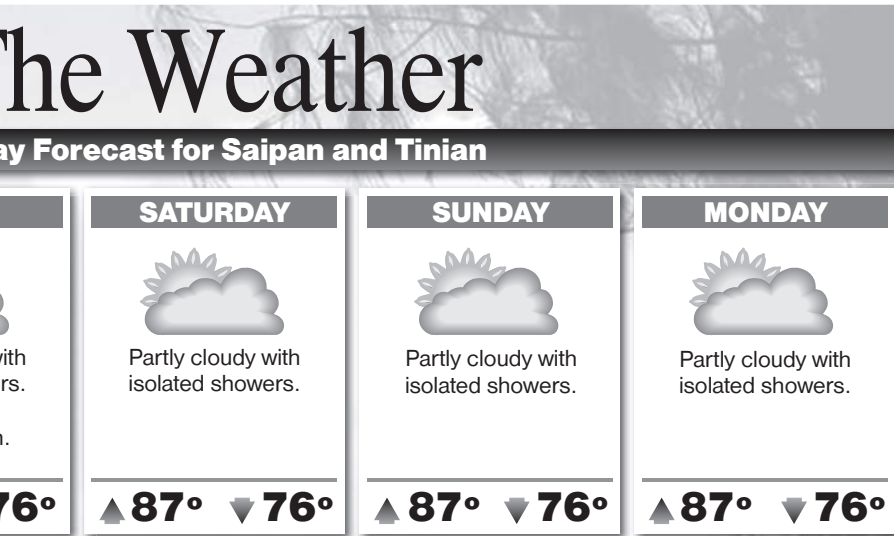
5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY |
|---|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. |
| ▲87° ▼76° | ▲87° ▼76° | ▲87° ▼76° | ▲87° ▼76° | ▲87° ▼76° |

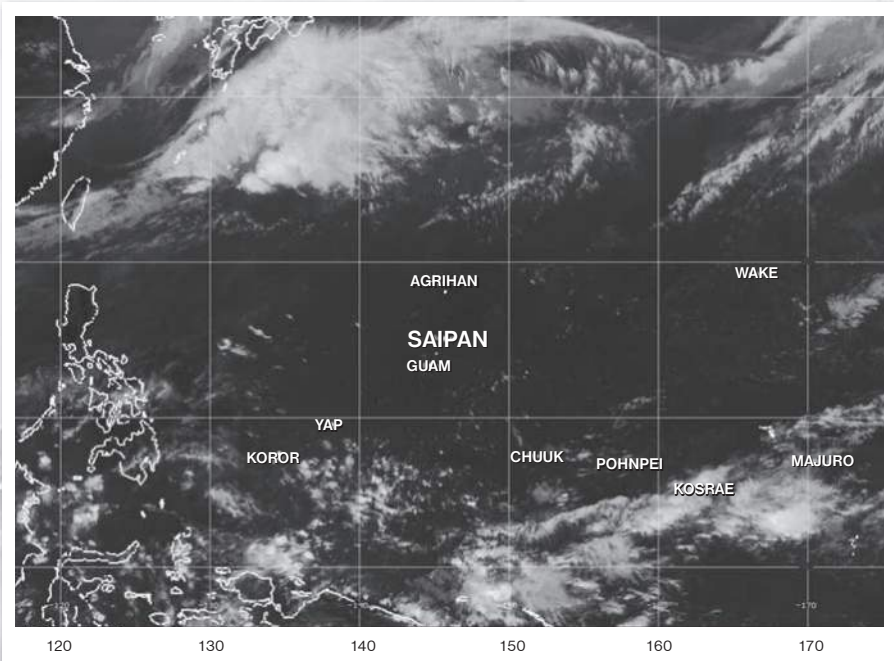
| Micronesia | | | |
|---------------|----------------|-----|-----|
| Guam and Rota | Thundershowers | ▲87 | ▼80 |
| Palau | Thunderstorms | ▲86 | ▼77 |
| Yap | Thunderstorms | ▲87 | ▼77 |
| Chuuk | Thunderstorms | ▲83 | ▼78 |
| Pohnpei | Thunderstorms | ▲86 | ▼77 |
| Kosrae | Rain | ▲88 | ▼80 |
| Majuro | Showers | ▲85 | ▼78 |

| Around The Globe | | | |
|------------------|----------------|-----|-----|
| Auckland | Showers | ▲65 | ▼59 |
| Beijing | Partly Cloudy | ▲74 | ▼53 |
| Hong Kong | Thundershowers | ▲78 | ▼73 |
| Honolulu | Showers | ▲85 | ▼74 |
| London | Showers | ▲61 | ▼50 |
| Los Angeles | Sunny | ▲85 | ▼58 |
| Manila | Thundershowers | ▲90 | ▼82 |
| Melbourne | Sunny | ▲69 | ▼55 |
| Miami | Sunny | ▲89 | ▼77 |
| New York | Showers | ▲72 | ▼61 |
| Osaka | Sunny | ▲61 | ▼49 |
| Paris | Showers | ▲66 | ▼45 |
| Pusan | Sunny | ▲63 | ▼50 |
| Rome | Showers | ▲71 | ▼52 |
| Salem | Showers | ▲56 | ▼42 |
| San Francisco | Mostly Sunny | ▲62 | ▼50 |
| Seoul | Mostly Sunny | ▲61 | ▼46 |
| Tokyo | Showers | ▲71 | ▼53 |
| Washington, DC | Thundershowers | ▲79 | ▼66 |

| Tides | | | |
|---------------|-------|------------|----------|
| Saipan Harbor | | | |
| 4:40 AM | Today | High Tide: | 1.8 Feet |
| 11:10 AM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.7 Feet |
| 4:46 PM | Today | High Tide: | 1.4 Feet |
| 10:52 PM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.6 Feet |



Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2011
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An upper-level trough stretches across a large part of the discussion area from 23N180 to 15N165E to 2N146E. Trade-wind convergence in combination with divergence east of the upper trough is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Chuuk between the equator and 4N from 147E to 158E south of Pohnpei and near Kosrae between 1N and 6N from 158E to 170E and south of Majuro between the equator and 4N from 170E to 180 and also east of Wake Island 150 miles east and west of a line that extends from 15N171E to 21N180. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Palau between the equator and 2N from 132E to 136E and south of Yap between 1N and 8N from 136E to 142E.

| Sunrise/Sunset | | | Moonrise/Moonset | | |
|----------------|---------|---------|------------------|---------|---------|
| Today | 5:56 AM | 6:34 PM | Today | 2:24 AM | 2:36 PM |
| Friday | 5:55 AM | 6:34 PM | Friday | 3:00 AM | 3:22 PM |
| Saturday | 5:55 AM | 6:34 PM | Saturday | 3:35 AM | 4:08 PM |
| Sunday | 5:54 AM | 6:34 PM | Sunday | 4:11 AM | 4:55 PM |
| Monday | 5:54 AM | 6:35 PM | Monday | 4:49 AM | 5:44 PM |

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Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
 - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
 - BUSINESS**
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
 - SAMUT SARI**
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - TRAVELOGUE**
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
 - CAMPUS BULLETIN**
Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.
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 - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
 - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
 - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 21, 2011

| DEPARTURES | | | | ARRIVALS | | | |
|---|---------|----------|---|--|---------|-----------|--|
| SAIPAN-GUAM | | | | GUAM-SAIPAN | | | |
| C09317 | 4:25am | 5:15am | Daily | C09316 | 2:45am | 3:35am | Daily |
| C09313 | 7:55am | 8:45am | 3, 6 | C09596 | 6:35am | 7:25am | 3, 6 |
| C09313 | 8:30am | 9:20am | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 | C09596 | 7:00am | 7:50am | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 |
| C09601 | 12:10pm | 1:00pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 | C09600 | 10:05am | 10:55am | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 |
| C09603 | 3:05pm | 3:55pm | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 | C09602 | 1:40pm | 2:30pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| C09605 | 6:20pm | 7:10pm | Daily | C09604 | 5:00pm | 5:50pm | Daily |
| C09599 | 9:30pm | 10:20pm | Daily | C09606 | 8:00pm | 8:50pm | Daily |
| SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) | | | | NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN | | | |
| DL287 | 6:00am | 8:45am | Daily, Departs at 6:05am effective June 1 | DL298 | 10:25am | 3:00pm | Daily |
| DL285 | 6:40am | 9:15am | 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 | DL286 | 7:45pm | 12:20am+1 | 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 |
| DL297 | 4:35pm | 7:20pm | Daily | DL288 | 8:05pm | 12:35am+1 | Daily, Arrives at 12:45am effective June 1, 2011 |
| SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX) | | | | OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ119 | 4:00am | 6:40am | Daily | OZ120 | 9:50am | 2:20am+1 | Daily |
| SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) | | | | BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ608 | 3:20am | 6:50am | 1, 4, 5, 7 | OZ607 | 9:10pm | 2:20am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) | | | | SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ606 | 2:10am | 6:00am | 1 | OZ603 | 9:00am | 2:20pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 |
| OZ606 | 2:40am | 6:30am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 | OZ120 | 7:10pm | 2:20am+1 | Daily via KIX |
| OZ604 | 3:20pm | 7:00pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 | OZ605 | 7:40pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 |
| OZ119 | 4:00am | 11:25am | Daily via KIX | OZ605 | 8:10pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) | | | | SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN | | | |
| FM844 | 2:50am | 5:40am | 2, 6 | FM843 | 7:15pm | 1:50am+1 | 1, 5 |
| SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) | | | | BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN | | | |
| CA988 | 3:15am | 6:55am | 1, 5 Dec 13, 17, 20, 24 & 27 only | CA987 | 6:40pm | 1:55am+1 | 4, 7 Dec 12, 16, 19, 23 & 26 only |
| SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) | | | | MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ606/701 | 2:10am | 11:50am | 1 via ICN | OZ704/603 | 12:10am | 2:20pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN |
| OZ606/701 | 2:40am | 11:50am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN | OZ716/603 | 12:30am | 2:20pm | 4, 6 via ICN |
| C09317/891 | 4:25am | 9:45am | 3, 6 via GUM | DL172/286 | 8:05am | 12:20am+1 | 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 |
| DL285/173 | 6:40am | 10:15pm | 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 via NRT | C0890/9606 | 10:55am | 8:50pm | 3, 6 via GUM |
| C09313/933 | 7:55am | 9:25pm | 3 via GUM | OZ702/605 | 1:10pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| C09313/893 | 7:55am | 11:00pm | 3 via GUM-Palau | OZ702/605 | 1:10pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| C09603/933 | 3:05pm | 9:25pm | 5 via GUM | PR110/C09596 | 10:15pm | 7:25am+1 | 6 via GUM |
| C09603/893 | 3:05pm | 11:00pm | 5 via GUM-Palau | PR110/C09596 | 10:15pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 2, 4, 7 via GUM |
| OZ604/703 | 3:20pm | 11:00pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 ICN | C0892/9596 | 10:25pm | 7:25am+1 | 3 via GUM-Palau |
| OZ604/715 | 3:20pm | 11:30pm | 7 | C0892/9596 | 10:25pm | 7:50am+1 | 5 via GUM-Palau |
| C09605/933 | 6:20pm | 9:40pm | 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM | C0934/9596 | 11:10pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 2, 7 via GUM |
| C09599/PR111 | 9:30pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM | C0934/9596 | 11:25pm | 7:50am+1 | 4 via GUM |
| | | | | C0934/9596 | 11:59pm | 7:25am+1 | 3 via GUM |
| | | | | C0934/9596 | 11:59pm | 7:50am+1 | 5 via GUM |
| SAIPAN-HONG KONG | | | | HONG KONG-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ606/721 | 2:10am | 12:00pm | 1 via ICN | OZ724/603 | 12:30am | 2:20pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN |
| OZ606/721 | 2:40am | 12:00pm | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN | OZ750/603 | 1:00am | 2:20pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN |
| C09603/909 | 3:05pm | 10:25pm | 1, 5 via GUM | OZ722/605 | 1:30pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ604/723 | 3:20pm | 10:35pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN | OZ722/605 | 1:30pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| OZ604/749 | 3:20pm | 11:00pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN | C0910/9596 | 11:15pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 5 via GUM |
| Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; CA: Air China | | | | ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.) | | | |

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency | Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|---------------|-------|-------|-----------|---------------|-------|-------|-----------|
| Guam-Rota | | | | Tinian-Saipan | | | |
| FRE 100 | 7:30 | 8:00 | Daily | FRE 113 | 11:40 | 11:50 | Daily |
| Rota-Saipan | | | | FRE 115 | 13:00 | 13:10 | Daily |
| FRE 100 | 8:20 | 8:50 | Daily | FRE 117 | 14:30 | 14:40 | Daily |
| Guam-Rota | | | | FRE 119 | 16:00 | 16:10 | Daily |
| FRE 300 | 17:00 | 17:30 | Daily | FRE 121 | 16:40 | 16:50 | Daily |
| Rota-Saipan | | | | FRE 123 | 17:40 | 17:50 | Daily |
| FRE 400 | 17:50 | 18:20 | Daily | FRE 125 | 18:30 | 18:40 | Daily |
| Saipan-Rota | | | | | | | |
| FRE 200 | 9:30 | 10:00 | Daily | FRE 102 | 7:05 | 7:15 | Daily |
| Rota-Guam | | | | FRE 104 | 7:50 | 8:00 | Daily |
| FRE 400 | 18:55 | 19:25 | Daily | FRE 106 | 8:20 | 8:30 | Daily |
| Saipan-Tinian | | | | FRE 108 | 9:00 | 9:10 | Daily |
| FRE 101 | 6:45 | 6:55 | Daily | FRE 110 | 10:00 | 10:10 | Daily |
| FRE 103 | 7:30 | 7:40 | Daily | FRE 112 | 11:05 | 11:15 | Daily |
| FRE 105 | 8:00 | 8:10 | Daily | FRE 114 | 12:00 | 12:10 | Daily |
| FRE 107 | 8:40 | 8:50 | Daily | FRE 116 | 13:30 | 13:40 | Daily |
| FRE 109 | 9:10 | 9:20 | Daily | FRE 118 | 14:50 | 15:00 | Daily |
| FRE 111 | 10:45 | 10:55 | Daily | FRE 120 | 16:20 | 16:30 | Daily |
| | | | | FRE 122 | 17:00 | 17:10 | Daily |
| | | | | FRE 124 | 18:05 | 18:15 | Daily |
| | | | | FRE 126 | 18:50 | 19:00 | Daily |

FLY GUAM FLIGHT SCHEDULE

| Guam-Saipan | | Saipan-Guam | | Saipan-Hong Kong | | Hong Kong-Saipan | |
|-----------------|-------|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|-------|
| Flight Sector | ETD | ETA | Turn-around Time | Flytime Hrs | Dates | Flytime Hrs | Dates |
| 5K389 | 12:30 | 13:20 | 01:00 | 00:50 | Mon, Thu, Sat | | |
| Saipan-Guam | | Saipan-Hong Kong | | Hong Kong-Saipan | | Hong Kong-Saipan | |
| 5K382 | 18:05 | 18:55 | HK | 00:50 | Tue, Fri, Sun | | |
| 5K168 | 14:20 | 17:30 | HKG | 05:10 | Mon, Thu, Sat | | |
| 5K169 | 10:00 | 17:05 | 01:00 | 05:05 | Tue, Fri, Sun | | |
| Mar. 28- May 22 | | | | | | | |
| Guam-Saipan | | Saipan-Guam | | Saipan-Hong Kong | | Hong Kong-Saipan | |
| 5K389 | 13:35 | 14:25 | 01:00 | 00:50 | Mon, Thu, Sat | | |
| 5K382 | 18:00 | 18:50 | HKG | 00:50 | Tue, Fri, Sun | | |
| 5K168 | 15:25 | 18:35 | HKG | 05:10 | Mon, Thu, Sat | | |
| 5K169 | 09:55 | 17:00 | 01:00 | 05:05 | Tue, Fri, Sun | | |



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tinian gears up for 2011 San Jose Fiesta

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The island of Tinian is prepping up for a more economical celebration of this year's San Jose Fiesta which is slated for April 29 to May 1.

"Because of our economic situation, we're trying our best to minimize the expenses related to the fiesta celebration. But there are just some that we cannot do without," said fiesta overall committee chair Joe Dela Cruz.

The San Jose Fiesta, which honors the town's patron saint, San Jose the Worker, is one of the biggest events for the island

south of Saipan.

Dela Cruz disclosed that this year's celebration has been allocated a budget of about \$10,000, a small amount compared to the previous years. Last year's funding was \$11,000.

"We used to spend five or six times higher in the past. We try to bring it down as much as possible so all the committee members are working together to keep the celebration up and running but make it more cost effective," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Dela Cruz said various activities will be featured in the annual fiesta celebration. These include a novena at the San Jose Church which began

on April 22 and will conclude on April 30; sporting events such as softball, tennis, men's basketball, and co-ed volleyball; booths and island entertainment; the traditional procession and banquet; San Jose Fiesta King and Queen Coronation; and a raffle drawing.

Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz, in a phone interview, said that this will be the second year that they will hold the traditional banquet at the church grounds immediately after the procession on April 30.

"We're going to have the banquet but it's a scaled-down banquet for people that actually participated in the mass and

the procession," said Ramon Dela Cruz.

The last day of the novena is scheduled at 4:30pm on April 30 followed by a mass at 5pm. The traditional procession will begin at 6pm and followed by the banquet.

Meanwhile, the various sporting events are scheduled from April 25 to 29.

The coronation of the San Jose Fiesta King & Queen, on the other hand, will be on April 29, 7pm at Kammer Beach.

Some 18 food and merchandise booths will open on Friday for the fiesta, with island-style entertainment to be provided by Afetna Regime, Parker, PSS

Music Club, Frank & Steve, Elementary Dance Club, Taotao Taga Dance Academy, and the Hofschneider Band.

The raffle draw on Sunday will conclude the fiesta celebration. Exciting prizes are at stake,

including the baby grand prize of \$500 and the grand prize of \$1,000.

"The leadership and people of Tinian are inviting the general public throughout the Commonwealth to come and join us for the annual San Jose Fiesta celebration," said the mayor.

For information, call 433-1801 or 1802.

MMAC team captains meeting today

The 2011 Marianas March Against Cancer committee will be holding a team captains meeting at 5:30pm today, April 28, at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. All team captains or their representatives are urged to attend this important meeting where vital information will be discussed.

All individuals, businesses, families, non-profit organizations or government agencies

who are interested in joining the MMAC or need more information are encouraged to attend this meeting.

The 2011 MMAC will be held from 5:30pm to 6am on May 13-14 at the Hopwood Junior High School field in Chalan Piao. For more information contact 2011 overall committee chairman Dave B. Guerrero at 989-2496 or email dave.b.guerrero@gmail.com or visit www.ccamarianas.org. (PR)

DFS is latest MMAC title sponsor

DFS Saipan, Ltd. has been named a title sponsor of the 2011 Marianas March Against Cancer—the most prestigious level of sponsorship of the annual fundraising event. Title sponsorship is conferred on companies that donate \$3,000 or more in cash or services.

"DFS Saipan, Ltd. is one of our oldest continuous title sponsors and their persistent support is enormously appreciated by the 2011 MMAC committee. On behalf of all our committee members and volunteers, we extend our gratitude to the staff and management of DFS Saipan, Ltd. for their contribution in the battle against cancer," said 2011

MMAC public relations committee chair Christopher A. Concepcion.

DFS Saipan, Ltd. joins an exclusive group of title sponsors which include the Bank of Guam, Delta Air Lines, IT&E, Joeten Charitable Foundation, Saipan Health Clinic/St. Jude Renal Care Facility, Sorensen Media Group, and Take Care/FHP.

"The committee would like to remind the community that we have luminaries and raffle tickets for sale at only \$5 each. Purchase a luminary in honor or in memory of a loved one who has battled cancer or who has lost the fight against this dreadful affliction. Or purchase a

raffle ticket for a chance to win a free airline ticket to the U.S. mainland or Honolulu courtesy of title sponsor Delta Air Lines," said Concepcion.

"We are also actively looking for entertainers to perform live at the largest cancer fundraising event in the CNMI. Show your support for the fight against cancer by volunteering your time to entertain the crowd at this great event," he added.

Please contact 2011 MMAC entertainment committee chairman L.J. Castro at 483-1027 or email ljmamis@gmail.com for more information.

"And lastly, we are inviting everyone who has beaten cancer or is currently undergoing cancer treatment to attend the

annual complimentary dinner held in their honor. Each survivor will be given a medalion to commemorate their battle against cancer along with a free T-shirt. Please contact 2011 MMAC survivor committee chair Nora Sablan at 235-0994 or email norasablan@gmail.com to register for the event," said Concepcion.

The 2011 Marianas March Against Cancer will be held from 5:30pm to 6am on May 13-14 at the Hopwood Junior High School field in Chalan Piao. The 2011 MMAC is brought to you by title sponsors Bank of Guam, Delta Air Lines, IT&E, Joeten Charitable Foundation, Saipan Health Clinic/St. Jude Renal Care Facility, Sorensen Media Group and Take Care/FHP. Special thanks to GPPC, Inc., Hyatt Regency Saipan, Images Saipan, Ltd., IP&E/Shell Marianas, Marianas Health Services, MMAC Golf Tournament Organizers, and Younis Art Studio.

For more information visit www.ccamarianas.org. (PR)



CLEANUP DRIVE

Staff and managers of Saipan World Resort took part in the DEQ Island-Wide Cleanup last April 16. The hotel staff and managers cleaned the area from south of World Resort to the Minachum Atdao Pavilion.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Korean newspapers tell 11 million about NMI

Seven daily newspapers from Korea have editorial teams on Saipan this week to introduce this island resort destination to their 11 million readers. The publications include five nationwide newspapers, a sports daily, and a business daily.

The media arrived on Saipan last April 26 and will spend three days exploring the activities and attractions of the island, with special emphasis on their accommodations at Saipan World Resort, which is organizing the joint promotion with the Marianas Visitors Authority.

Their itinerary begins with an

island tour of significant historic and scenic sites, a tour of the main tourist district of Garapan, shopping at DFS Galleria, and a sunset dinner cruise in Saipan's azure lagoon. Day 2 has them visiting award-winning Managaha Island, taking a jungle tour, and stopping by the widely popular Garapan Street Market.

The MVA is providing partial funding for the media FAM tour's airfare and activity costs.

"It's a whirlwind tour for these media reps, and we're working with sponsor Saipan World Resort to pack in as much as possible during these

three short days," said MVA marketing manager Bruce Bateman. "Given the strength of the Korean market, we have made this FAM tour a financial priority. There's just no way we could miss a promotional exposure opportunity to reach all across Korea. It is an excellent return on investment."

The estimated ad exposure value of the FAM tour coverage is \$200,000. The participating newspapers are *Chosun Ilbo*, *Joongang Ilbo*, *Kukmin Ilbo*, *Kyunghyang Shinmun*, *Naeil Shinmun*, *Money Today*, and *The Sports Chosun*. (MVA)

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff,
vs.
ROSLYN C. PALACIOS, Defendant.

Civil Action
No. 08-0358-CV

AMENDED NOTICE
OF HEARING ON
PLAINTIFF'S MOTION
FOR AN ORDER OF
JUDICIAL SALE OF
MORTGAGED
PROPERTY

Date: May 26, 2011
Time: 1:30 pm
Judge: David Wiseman

AMENDED NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on May 26, 2011, at 1:30 pm, a hearing will be held before the Honorable David A. Wiseman on Plaintiff's Motion for an Order of Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property in the above-styled matter, at the Superior Court for the CNMI, Guma Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. This hearing was rescheduled from April 21, 2011 at 1:30 pm to the above set date and time.

Dated this 21st day of April, 2011.

/s/ BERNADITA A. SABLAN
Clerk of Court

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on Thursday, May 05, 2011 at 5:00 PM, Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten DanDan Commercial Bldg., Saipan

A. Preliminary Matters

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes
5. Communications
6. Public Comments

B. Public Hearings

1. **Case 2011-0313.** A request by Lourdes M. Austria of Aduana International Freight Forwarding Services, Inc. for a Conditional Use Permit. Aduana International Freight would like to use the existing building on Lot E.A. 825 New 1-1 for a warehouse and wholesaling operation. The property is zoned as "Village Commercial". This site is located directly on Msgr Martinez Road in the Village of As Lito. This is within proximity of the intersection of Msgr Martinez Road with As Lito Drive.
2. **Case 2011-0705.** A request by Pastor Gi Jo Kim for a Conditional Use Permit. The Jesus Love Church would like to establish a church on Lot 005 I 327, along Tinaktak Drive, in Koblerville. The property is zoned as "Village Residential". This site is south of Koblerville Road at the southeast corner (approximately) of Tinaktak Drive and Fanihin Tasi Drive.
3. **Case 2011-0604.** Mr. Howard Wesner III of Town House Inc. is requesting a Conditional Use Permit to build a refrigerated warehouse on Lot 023 D 68, Lot 023 D 69, and Tract 22812, in Lower Navy Hill. This is at the intersection of Pattida Drive and Chalan Pale Arnold Road. Town House Inc. will use the property for wholesaling activities as well as warehousing. The property is zoned as "Mixed Commercial".
4. **Case 2011-0821.** A request by Mr. Naotaka Kagawa of Solar System Corporation for a Variance from the terms of Section 509(d)(2) of the Zoning Law. This is the bulk and dimensional requirements of properties within the "Rural" zoning district. This property is zoned as "Rural". Solar System Corporation would like to construct a Solar Power (Photovoltaic) Generation facility on Lot 032 A 01 in the Village of San Roque. This is just north of the Marpi baseball field and within 2,500' of Wing Beach. To make this project feasible, the applicants request a reduction of the required fifty (50) foot setbacks from the front, side, and rear property lines.

C. Reports

1. Chairman
2. Secretary
3. Treasurer
4. Administrator
5. Committees
6. Legal Counsel

D. Old Business

1. Update on Zoning Office Operations.
2. Revisions to the Zoning Law.
3. Schedule of public outreach efforts.

E. New Business.

4. Election of Board Officers (Vice Chairman and Treasurer).
5. HLB 17-26 – Schedule of Special Board hearings for each recommended rezoning and text amendment in this bill.

F. Executive (Closed) Session

G. Miscellaneous: Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact Douglas Wyatt, Zoning Administrator, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms
(Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA
ISLANDS**

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST, |] | Civil Action No. 06-0554-CV |
| Plaintiff, |] | |
| vs. |] | NOTICE OF SALE |
| |] | |
| BONABE H. MARATITA and EMILIA E. MARATITA, |] | |
| Defendants. |] | |

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 19th day of November, 2007, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the judgment, the undersigned counsel will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **19th day of May, 2011 at 10 a.m.,** at the Marianas Public Land Trust Conference Room, Capitol Hill, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot 345 R 64, containing an area of 1,083 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 345 R 03 dated December 19, 1983.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

- Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject any and all bids.
- Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749.
- Deposit and Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to MPLT.
- Change of Terms. Auctioneer and MPLT reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 16th day of March, 2011.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms
(Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA
ISLANDS**

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST, |] | Civil Action No. 06-0332-CV |
| Plaintiff, |] | |
| vs. |] | FOURTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE |
| |] | |
| ELPHIDIA S. KASE and the ESTATE OF TOSHICHI KASE, Deceased, |] | |
| Defendants. |] | |

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 30th day of November, 2006, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the judgment, the undersigned counsel will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **19th day of May, 2011 at 10 a.m.,** at the Marianas Public Land Trust Conference Room, Capitol Hill, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot No. 005 I 298, containing an area of 953 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 005 I 05, the original of which was recorded on July 31, 1984 as Document No. 84-1364 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

- Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject any and all bids.
- Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749.
- Deposit and Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to MPLT.
- Change of Terms. Auctioneer and MPLT reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 16th day of March, 2011.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms
(Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA
ISLANDS**

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST, |] | Civil Action No. 02-0397-CV |
| Plaintiff, |] | |
| vs. |] | FOURTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE |
| |] | |
| DONALD T. FLORES and SHIRLINA DLG. FLORES, Deceased. |] | |
| Defendants. |] | |

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 18th day of January, 2005, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the judgment, the undersigned counsel will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **19th day of May, 2011 at 10 a.m.,** at the Marianas Public Land Trust Conference Room, Capitol Hill, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot No. 002 G 400, containing an area of 924 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 002 G 09 dated May 31, 1989 and filed at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office on May 14, 1990 as File No. 90-1906.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

- Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject any and all bids.
- Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749.
- Deposit and Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to MPLT.
- Change of Terms. Auctioneer and MPLT reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 16th day of March, 2011.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

GCA teachers return from relief effort in Japan



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Grace Christian Academy senior pastor Ray Kinsella, left, joins the six teachers who flew to the town of Shichigahama in Japan to aid in relief efforts for the earthquake and tsunami victims. They are Mark Robles, Alain Nunez, Sarah Klockowski, Danielle LaBossiere, Jennifer Douglass, and Joshua Zwicker.

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Humbling, inspiring, life-changing.

These were the words used by the six teachers from the Grace Christian Academy to describe their experience helping in actual relief efforts to aid victims of the devastating earthquake and tsunami to hit Japan last month.

The six-member team, which left Saipan on April 16, arrived Monday afternoon after 10 days of providing assistance to some 500 victims staying in a shelter in Miyagi district's town of Shichigahama.

Shichigahama was one of the towns badly damaged by the 2011 Tohoku-Pacific Great Earthquake, which set off a 10-meter tsunami that washed away and destroyed majority of homes and infrastructure in the area.

The team initially stayed in Tokyo for the first two days for their briefing and training, after which they volunteered in a shelter in Shichigahama, which is five hours from Tokyo, for five days.

Their last three days were spent in Tokyo where the team had their debriefing and also partnered with other missionaries of the Assemblies of God as well as other churches.

During their stay at the shelter, each of the team members helped in tidying up the shelter, shoveling mud out of the victims' houses, and discarding their things that accumulated mud.

In an interview with the team members a day after their arrival, each had a story to share about their experience at the shelter.

English teacher Danielle LaBossiere said she got to know a certain Mr. Sazaki, who narrated how he, along with his wife and mother-in-law, were able to leave their abode before the huge wave washed it away.

"They had to run and jump over a big cement wall and the wife broke her leg but they still managed to get away... It's amazing how they got

out," she said.

Web designer and worship leader Alain Nunez recounted the experience of Endo-san, a 70-year-old Japanese who was driving along the highway and had to jump out of his car and run into higher ground when he saw the water coming in.

For youth pastor and Bible teacher Sarah Klockowski, the biggest impact of the experience came during her interaction with the victims, each having been allotted just a small, cardboard cubicle space at the shelter.

"It was very inspiring and very humbling to realize that you're looking at this area and this is everything he has in life in this one little cardboard cubicle and yet he smiles and is very appreciative about me taking his trash," she said, adding that the moment "made the whole trip worth it."

Jennifer Douglass, a science teacher, said that most of the victims, who have lost their children, parents, wives, or husbands, "just wanted an ear to listen" to their stories. "They would just tell us their stories... to share and to get that emotional relief off from people who care and want to hear what happened."

Other than the language barrier, the team said staying warm on a very cold and rainy weather was also challenging.

The challenges notwithstanding, third grade teacher Joshua Zwicker said there were other volunteers, locals and foreigners alike, who all reached out to the victims at the shelter. They included junior high school and university students from Tokyo; a Japanese man who lived out of his car for three weeks just to help; and Ray Melisko III, an American who left everything he has, boarded on a plane and lived in the shelter to volunteer.

"It was a real blessing to see people coming together and support each other," he added.

Changing perspectives, lives

Computer teacher Mark Robles

said his experience at the shelter changed his perspective about Japan.

"Before, I think of Japan as a rich and very self-sufficient country. When I was there... I realized that they need to be evangelized also even though they're rich," he said.

For Douglass, it took a little girl living in a shelter who gave her a piece of candy and a hug to realize that there's always something that anyone can do or give for others. "There's always something you could do to help out somebody else, regardless of your own situation," she said.

Nunez said the experience taught him to change his perspective about life. "Material things will be gone in an instant but families and relationships, I think that's more important," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Klockowski added, "Life is very fleeting and it shouldn't take a disaster like this to stop and reflect on what life really is and what's really important... Knowing Christ is the purpose of life."

'A great inspiration'

Ray Kinsella, senior pastor at GCA and general superintendent of the General Council of the Assemblies of God of Marianas and Palau Islands, said the six-member team which was able to raise over \$8,000 for their trip to Japan is a "great inspiration for all of us."

"They knew they would just be going out and clearing mud out of houses... That's what they wanted to do," he said in an interview.

Kinsella said all the team members, who came out to Saipan as missionaries, have come to serve and give, not to look out for themselves.

With the work they did at the shelter in Japan, Kinsella said the team was able "to show the love of God."

"It shows beautifully the spirit of the missionary, of why we are here," he added.

Business

Fed weighs next move; Bernanke to meet the press

WASHINGTON (AP)—The door at the notoriously secretive Federal Reserve is opening wider.

For the first time in the Fed's 98-year history, its chairman is to begin holding regular news conferences. For Ben Bernanke, Wednesday's meeting with the press gives him a chance to steer the debate about where hiring, economic growth and inflation are headed in the months ahead.

It also helps the chairman cast himself as open and accessible, eager to answer questions.

Investors will be looking mainly for clues about when the Fed will reverse course and begin boosting interest rates.

When their two-day meeting ends Wednesday, before the news conference begins, Bernanke and his colleagues are expected to signal that the Fed's \$600 billion Treasury bond-buying program will end as scheduled in June.

The bond-buying program was intended to keep interest rates low, encourage spend-

ing and boost growth. But critics say increased spending has raised the risk of high inflation.

Since the Fed announced the economic-support program in November, the economy has improved. Unemployment has fallen to 8.8 percent. And the private sector over the past two months has embarked on its biggest hiring spree in five years.

But a spike in oil and food prices has pushed inflation up. That's sparked a debate within the Fed about when to start raising rates and take other steps to soak up the money pumped into the economy during the recession.

A vocal minority, including the Fed regional chiefs in Philadelphia and Minneapolis, say the Fed may need to raise interest rates by the end of this year to fight inflation. The central bank has kept its benchmark

interest rate near zero since December 2008.

And Richard Fisher, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, argues that the Fed should consider halting the bond-buying program now, not in June.

The majority—including Bernanke, vice chairwoman Janet Yellen and William Dudley, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York—say interest rates should stay low longer, and the bond-buying program should run its course.

Bernanke has predicted that the jump in oil and food prices will cause only a brief increase in consumer inflation. Excluding those prices, which tend to fluctuate sharply, inflation is still low, he has argued.

So far this year, Bernanke has managed to forge consensus for his policies. All the Fed's decisions this year have been unanimous. But the deepening divides could make Bernanke's job harder.

Sony: Credit data risked in PlayStation outage

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Sony Corp. said Tuesday that the credit card data of PlayStation users around the world may have been stolen in a hack that forced it to shut down its PlayStation Network for the past week, disconnecting 77 million user accounts

Some players brushed off the breach as a common hazard of operating in a connected world, and Sony said some services would be restored in a week. But industry experts said the scale of the breach was staggering and could cost the company billions of dollars. "Simply put, one of the worst breaches we've seen in several years," said Josh Shaul, chief technology officer for Application Security Inc., a New York-based company that is one of the country's largest database security software makers.

Sony said it has no direct evidence credit card information was taken, but said "we cannot rule out the possibility."

It said the intrusion was "malicious" and that the company had hired an outside security firm to investigate. It has taken steps to rebuild its system to provide greater protection for personal information and warned users to contact credit agencies and set up fraud alerts. "Our teams are working around the clock on this, and services will be restored as soon as possible," it said in a blog post Tuesday.

The company shut down the network last Wednesday after it said account information, including names, birthdates,

email addresses and log-in information was compromised for certain players in the days prior. Sony says people in 59 nations use the PlayStation network.

Purchase history and credit card billing address information may also have been stolen but the intruder did not obtain the 3-digit security code on the back of cards, Sony said. Spokesman Satoshi Fukuoka said the company has not received any reports yet of credit card fraud or abuse resulting from the breach.

Shaul said that not having direct proof of credit card information theft should not instill a sense of security, and could mean Sony just didn't know what files were touched.

"They indicated that they're worried about it, which is probably a very strong indication that everything was stolen," he said.

If the intruder successfully stole credit card data, the heist would rank among the biggest known thefts of financial data.

Recent major hacks included some 130 million card numbers stolen from payment processor Heartland Payment Systems. As many as 100 million accounts were lifted in a break-in at TJX Cos., the chain that owns discount retailers T.J. Maxx and Marshalls, and some 4.2 million card numbers were stolen from East Coast grocery chain Hannaford Bros. Those attacks allegedly involved a single person: Albert Gonzalez, a Miami hacker who was sentenced last year to 20 years in prison for the attacks.

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms
(Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA
ISLANDS

| | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST, Plaintiff, |] Civil Action No. 06-0590-CV |
| vs. |] SECOND NOTICE OF SALE |
| WILLIAM DLG. ANGUI and JESSIE A. ANGUI, Defendants. |] |

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 23rd day of August, 2007, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the judgment, the undersigned counsel will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **19th day of May, 2011 at 10 a.m.**, at the Marianas Public Land Trust Conference Room, Capitol Hill, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot 011 G 1067, containing an area of 841 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 001 G 19 dated December 9, 1993 and recorded at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office on December 9, 1993 as File No. 93-4287.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

- Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject any and all bids.
- Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749.
- Deposit and Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to MPLT.
- Change of Terms. Auctioneer and MPLT reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 16th day of March, 2011.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms
(Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA
ISLANDS

| | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST, Plaintiff, |] Civil Action No. 06-0331-CV |
| vs. |] SECOND NOTICE OF SALE |
| DIEGO SN. DELA CRUZ and LEOLANIE R. DELA CRUZ, Defendants. |] |

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 14th day of August, 2007, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the judgment, the undersigned counsel will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **19th day of May, 2011 at 10 a.m.**, at the Marianas Public Land Trust Conference Room, Capitol Hill, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot/Tract No. 011 G 403, containing an area of 858 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 07, the original of which was recorded on December 16, 1993 as Document No. 93-4415 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

- Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject any and all bids.
- Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749.
- Deposit and Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to MPLT.
- Change of Terms. Auctioneer and MPLT reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 16th day of March, 2011.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms
(Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA
ISLANDS

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|---|---|
| MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST, Plaintiff, |] Civil Action No. 06-0328-CV |
| vs. |] THIRD AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE |
| FERNANDO H. RAMANGMOU and MARIE E. RAMANGMOU, Defendants. |] |

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 14th day of February, 2007, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the judgment, the undersigned counsel will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **19th day of May, 2011 at 10 a.m.**, at the Marianas Public Land Trust Conference Room, Capitol Hill, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot 002 G 303, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands & Surveys Official Plat No. 002 G 07 dated May 31, 1989 and filed at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office on May 14, 1990 as File No. 90-1904.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

- Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject any and all bids.
- Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749.
- Deposit and Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to MPLT.
- Change of Terms. Auctioneer and MPLT reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 16th day of March, 2011.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Biggest US airlines have combined 1Q loss over \$1B

With fresh red ink at Delta and US Airways, the five biggest U.S. airlines showed a combined loss of more than \$1 billion for the first quarter. Soaring jet fuel prices are the big culprit. The total loss was only about \$100 million larger than a year ago, even though jet fuel spending jumped by 28 percent, nearly \$1.9 billion. Airlines were able to narrow the difference in fuel spending with a 12 percent increase in revenue. They have raised fares seven times since the start of the year and would like to keep doing that to offset higher fuel costs. (AP)

Amazon.com's profit tumbles more than expected

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Amazon.com said Tuesday that its net income fell 33 percent in the latest quarter, a steeper drop than Wall Street expected as the online retailer poured more money into expanding its operations. While Amazon's profit was a disappointment, its revenue topped expectations. The company's management says that the stronger sales mean Amazon needs more warehouses and upgraded technology, which require bigger investments that cut into earnings. The world's biggest online retailer is also facing competitive challenges from Wal-Mart Stores Inc. and other rivals, and is spending to shore up its lead.

Nation

Floodwaters threaten to overrun Midwest levees

POPLAR BLUFF, Mo. (AP)—Floodwaters threatened earthen levees protecting thousands of homes in the nation’s midsection Tuesday, rising so fast in some places that panicked residents didn’t have time to pile up sandbags.

Storms have unleashed more than a foot of rain across the region, and the forecast offered little hope for relief. Another, larger system was brewing along the same path, bringing

several more days of rain and the possibility of tornadoes.

The greatest flooding threat loomed in the southeastern Missouri community of Poplar Bluff, a town of 17,000 residents about 130 miles south of St. Louis. Six inches of rain fell Monday alone, bringing the four-day total to 15 inches.

By midday, the deluge had caused the Black River to pour over a levee in 30 places. The flood wall extending from Pop-

lar Bluff to the town of Qulin downstream was also breached in at least one place, allowing water to gush through a hole.

“Each heavy downpour, each hour that passes by with the water pushing on that levee, the likelihood of a failure is that much more possible,” said Deputy Police Chief Jeff Rolland, calling it a “miracle” that the first hole did not develop until late morning.

In another area near the con-

fluence of the swollen Mississippi and Ohio rivers, authorities debated a desperate plan to use explosives to blow a 2-mile-wide hole through a levee to ease the pressure on others.

Butler County Sheriff Mark Dodd said the water pouring through the levee was unlikely to make it far enough upstream to add to the threat facing Poplar Bluff, where about 1,000 homes had already been evacuated. But authorities planned to evacu-

ate more homes closer to the breach, which was in a sparsely populated area.

Terry Jones went to St. Louis over the weekend to attend her sister’s funeral. By the time she returned, her home was flooded.

“By the time I got out there, water was over my porch,” said Jones, a 51-year-old retiree. “My front room is messed up. I don’t know about the bedrooms because I couldn’t get in.”

Despite the punishment the region has already endured, the weather was expected to get worse - and soon. Another line of storms moving through Oklahoma and Texas carried the same threat of tornadoes and flooding but over a broader area that stretched from Dallas to Louisiana and up to Memphis.

Greg Carbin, the warning coordination meteorologist for the National Weather Service’s Storm Prediction Center in Norman, Okla., said having two systems develop back-to-back is unusual.

Countdown begins for next-to-last shuttle launch

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—The astronaut husband of wounded Rep. Gabrielle Giffords arrived at NASA’s launch site Tuesday for this week’s flight of space shuttle Endeavour, and said his wife would be following him “pretty soon”—in plenty of time for liftoff.

Endeavour is set to blast off Friday afternoon on its final voyage. It will be the next-to-last space shuttle mission. Navy Capt. Mark Kelly and his crew flew into Kennedy Space Center early Tuesday afternoon. The countdown began about an hour later.

Speaking on behalf of his five crewmates, Kelly expressed pleasure at seeing the astronauts’ wives and children, who flew in a little earlier and gathered nearby.

Giffords was not in the crowd. She has been in Houston, where she is undergoing rehabilitation for a gunshot wound to the head. She was attacked Jan. 8 in her Tucson, Ariz., hometown.

“I’m personally looking forward to my wife, Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, getting here pretty soon, to be here in time for our launch on Friday,” Kelly told the crowd of family members and journalists.

“It’s something she’s been looking forward to for a long time,” he said. “She’s been working really hard to make sure that her doctors would permit her to come. She’s more than medically ready to be here, and she’s excited about making this trip.”

Kelly was joined Tuesday by his identical twin, astronaut Scott Kelly. Both wore turquoise “Gabby” wristbands. Her staff said Giffords’ travel for Florida would be provided by NASA.

President Barack Obama and his family also will attend the liftoff.

NASA test director Jeremy Graeber said the presidential visit—and Giffords’ presence—will not distract the launch team. It’s exciting, though, to have so many people coming for Endeavour’s final takeoff, especially first-time guests, he said.

Forecasters put the odds of good launch weather at 80 percent. Launch time is 3:47 p.m.

Endeavour will carry a \$2 billion particle physics experiment to the International Space Station along with a load of spare station parts.

The 30-year shuttle program will end this summer with the flight of Atlantis.

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

Antares Wholesaler

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this Conditional Use application. Lourdes M. Austria of Aduana International Freight Forwarding Services, Inc. would like to use the existing building on Lot E.A. 825 New 1-1 for a warehouse and wholesaling operation. The property is zoned as “Village Commercial”. This site is located directly on Msgr Martinez Road in the Village of As Lito. This is within proximity of the intersection of Msgr Martinez Road with As Lito Drive.

Date: Thursday May 5th, 2011

Time: 5:00 pm

Place: Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the projects may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may also be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office no later than 4:30pm, May 4th, 2011. Written comments may be submitted via email to dwyatt@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or delivered to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please contact Douglas Wyatt, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Division 3 of Title 10 CMC).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

Saipan Jesus Love Church

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this Conditional Use application. Pastor Gi Jo Kim would like to establish a church on Lot 005 I 327, along Tinaktak Drive, in Koblerville. The property is zoned as “Village Residential”. This site is south of Koblerville Road at the southeast corner (approximately) of Tinaktak Drive and Fanihin Tasi Drive.

Date: Thursday May 5th, 2011

Time: 5:00 pm

Place: Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the projects may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may also be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office no later than 4:30pm, May 4th, 2011. Written comments may be submitted via email to dwyatt@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or delivered to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please contact Douglas Wyatt, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Division 3 of Title 10 CMC).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

Solar System Corporation

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this Variance Request application. Mr. Naotaka Kagawa of Solar System Corporation would like to construct a Solar Power (Photovoltaic) Generation facility on Lot 032 A 01 in the Village of San Roque. This property is zoned as “Rural”. This is just north of the Marpi baseball field and within 2,500’ of Wing Beach. To make this project feasible, the applicants request a reduction of the required fifty (50) foot setbacks from the front, side, and rear property lines.

Date: Thursday May 5th, 2011

Time: 5:00 pm

Place: Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the projects may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may also be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office no later than 4:30pm, May 4th, 2011. Written comments may be submitted via email to dwyatt@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or delivered to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please contact Douglas Wyatt, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Division 3 of Title 10 CMC).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

Town House Inc.

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this Conditional Use application. Mr. Howard Wesner III of Town House Inc. is requesting a Conditional Use Permit to build a refrigerated warehouse on Lot 023 D 68, Lot 023 D 69, and Tract 22812, in Lower Navy Hill. This is at the intersection of Pattida Drive and Chalan Pale Arnold Road. Town House Inc. will use the property for wholesaling and warehousing activities. The property is zoned as “Mixed Commercial”.

Date: Thursday May 5th, 2011

Time: 5:00 pm

Place: Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the projects may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may also be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office no later than 4:30pm, May 4th, 2011. Written comments may be submitted via email to dwyatt@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or delivered to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please contact Douglas Wyatt, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Division 3 of Title 10 CMC).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

ACROSS THE NATION

Colo. mall bomb suspect caught; no word on motive

BOULDER, Colo. (AP)—A man suspected of leaving a homemade bomb at a Colorado shopping mall was captured without a fight outside a grocery store some 30 miles away Tuesday following a nationwide alert in which the FBI warned he should be considered armed and dangerous. Federal and local officials allege 65-year-old Earl Albert Moore planted a pipe bomb and propane tanks in the Southwest Plaza Mall in the south Denver suburbs last week. The explosives were found April 20 after a fire in a hallway at the mall’s food court, but they didn’t detonate.

Girl’s mom sues over NYC anti-abortion billboard

NEW YORK (AP)—A New Jersey mother is suing an anti-abortion organization that used her 6-year-old daughter’s image on a massive billboard in New York City that some people denounced as racist and offensive. Tricia Fraser filed a lawsuit Tuesday against Texas-based Life Always over the billboard that went up briefly in Manhattan earlier this year. Life Always did not immediately respond to a request for comment. The billboard pictured Fraser’s daughter, who is black, along with the words, “The most dangerous place for an African-American is in the womb.”

Asia

PH ex-president accused of \$12.8M plunder

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A complaint filed Tuesday alleges former Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo plundered an overseas workers' fund to boost her 2004 election campaign.

The complaint claims Arroyo ordered about 530 million pesos (\$12.3 million) diverted from the fund to pay for health cards with her image on them distributed during the campaign.

About 9 million Filipinos work abroad due to a lack of employment at home, and their contributions to the trust fund pay for repatriation during emergencies, medical care and other needs unique to

overseas workers.

The complaint alleges their money was misused when part of the trust fund was allegedly diverted to pay for health cards, which are available to all Filipinos to pay for hospital care.

Arroyo has long denied wrongdoing but continues to be dogged by allegations of corruption and misrule in her nine-year presidency. She stepped down last June and now serves in the House of Representatives.

The complaint filed by lawyer Frank Chavez, a former solicitor general, was received by the Justice Department, which will determine if there is enough

evidence for an indictment.

Chavez's complaint also alleges three government officials conspired with Arroyo to divert the money. He also claimed she diverted 21.5 million pesos (\$494,000) to pay for diplomatic vehicles in the Middle East in support of the US-led war in Iraq and "humanitarian assistance" to Filipinos in Iraq in 2003.

The Justice Department is still reviewing a previous plunder complaint that Arroyo ordered the sale of prime government property to a private developer but did not remit 72 million (\$1.7 million) in capital gains tax.

Carter, other ex-leaders meet North Korean FM

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP)—Ex-President Jimmy Carter and three former European leaders have been feted by North Korea's foreign minister, but it was unclear Wednesday whether they would meet top leader Kim Jong Il to discuss ways to restart long-stalled nuclear talks.

Carter, former Finnish President Martti Ahtisaari, former Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Brundtland and former Irish President Mary Robinson had talks with Foreign Minister Pak Ui Chun at a state guesthouse in Pyongyang ahead of a reception

Tuesday night, the North's official Korean Central News Agency said in a two-sentence report.

The leaders said before the trip that they were in the dark about their itinerary but hoped to meet with Kim and his son and heir apparent Kim Jong Un. The delegation was not expected to speak to the media until it reaches Seoul on Thursday, and the North has provided few details.

The three-day visit comes as diplomats struggle to find a way to resume six-nation nuclear disarmament talks that the North walked away from in 2009.

Also likely on the agenda is the dismal relationship between North and South Korea, which has hampered efforts to restart the talks on the North's nuclear programs.

Animosity has soared between the neighbors since North Korea allegedly torpedoed a South Korean warship in March 2010, killing 46 sailors. The North shelled a South Korean island in November, killing two civilians and two marines. The North also revealed a secret uranium enrichment program late last year that would give it a second way to make nuclear weapons.

Before flying to Pyongyang, Carter said he didn't intend to raise the case of Jun Young Su, a Korean-American being held in North Korea, reportedly on charges of carrying out missionary activity. Carter flew to North Korea last year to free another jailed American.

house while they arranged for inmates to get keys so that they could open their cells on the night of the escape.

Thai-Cambodia clashes continue for 6th day

SURIN, Thailand (AP)—Officials say Thailand and Cambodia have traded fire for a sixth day as an increasingly bloody border dispute drags on. Thai army spokesman Col. Sansern Kaewkamnerd says one Thai civilian was killed Tuesday by Cambodian rocket fire, bringing the total dead in the wave of clashes that began Friday to 14. Military officials from both nations say Wednesday's fighting centered around two crumbling stone temples from the Khmer Empire at Ta Moan and Ta Krabey which have been caught in crossfire since the weekend.

World

Govt forces bombard Libyan port

ABOARD THE RED STAR 1 (AP)—Libyan government forces on Tuesday bombarded the port of Misrata, in a virtually nonstop assault on the sole lifeline of a battered population that has been under siege for the past two months.

While forces loyal to Moammar Gadhafi pulled out of the city over the weekend under pressure from NATO airstrikes, they have since unleashed a withering rocket and mortar barrage on Misrata that has killed dozens. The bombardment Tuesday was constant throughout the afternoon and into the evening, and loud explosions could be heard

thundering across the city.

"It was horrific, like a scene from World War II," said resident Saddoun el-Misurati who was waiting to evacuate his mother from the port when the rockets began to fall. "I stopped counting after nine."

Hundreds of residents, including migrant African laborers, had been waiting at the port for the expected afternoon arrival of the Red Star 1, an Albanian ship chartered by the International Organization of Migration to evacuate people from the besieged city.

The crowd gathered on the docks scrambled for cover when the rockets began fall-

ing, hiding in cars and shipping crates or just fleeing the port area, said el-Misurati.

Even after sundown, Gadhafi's forces continued to shell the port.

Abdullah Abodabbous, a 25-year-old from Benghazi, said he was trying to leave on a small, previously arranged vessel when a barrage of at least 10 Grad rockets slammed into the port around 9 p.m., forcing him to hide under a table in offices near the main entrance.

With Gadhafi's troops besieging the city on all sides by land, the port has become a key point in the battle for Misrata.

Hundreds detained after bloody Syrian crackdown

CAIRO (AP)—Syrian forces heaped more punishment Tuesday on residents of restive towns, detaining hundreds in raids or at checkpoints, firing on people trying to retrieve the bodies of anti-government protesters and even shooting holes in rooftop water tanks in a region parched by drought, witnesses said.

In the southern city of Daraa, where Syrian army tanks and snipers killed at least 34 people in two days, a resident said security forces shot and killed a man as he walked out of the main Omari mosque and shouted at them though a bullhorn: "Enough! Enough! Enough! Stop killing your brothers!"

The crackdown by President Bashar Assad has intensified since Friday, when more than 100 people were killed. Security forces also conducted raids in the Damascus suburb of Douma and the northern coastal town of Jableh.

Human rights groups estimate that more than 400 people have been killed since mid-March as the Assad regime has tried to crush the uprising. But instead of intimidating protesters, it has emboldened them, and their calls for modest reforms have them now increasingly demanding Assad's ouster.

European leaders escalated their criticism of the Syrian crackdown, with the French president calling the current situation "unacceptable," and Britain's foreign minister raising the possibility of sanctions. Even the Arab League said that those in the region demanding freedom and de-

mocracy "require support, and not shooting with bullets."

The attack on Daraa—where the uprising began—appeared to be part of strategy of crippling, pre-emptive action against any opposition to Assad, rather than reacting to demonstrations. But the campaign of intimidation through violence and arrests was unlikely to work, according to a human rights worker, noting that every time Syrian forces surrounded or attacked one town, sympathetic protests broke out elsewhere nearby.

"When the army was sweeping through parts of Daraa, the people were demonstrating in other parts," said the activist, Rami Nakhla, who is based in Beirut. "All they are doing is increasing the people's determination."



ASIAN BRIEFS



Afghan forces recapture 71 from Kandahar jailbreak


KANDAHAR, Afghanistan (AP)—The massive security breach that allowed the Taliban to spirit more than 480 Afghan inmates out southern Afghanistan's largest prison must have involved inside collaborators, the Justice Ministry said Tuesday, as security forces worked to recapture the escaped convicts. Prison officials discovered early Monday morning that the inmates—nearly all of them Taliban militants—were missing from their cells, and then found the tunnel through which they appeared to have made their getaway.



The Taliban said the prison break was five months in the making, with diggers starting the tunnel from under a nearby

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|  PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT  | |
| INVITATION FOR BID IFB NO.: IFB11-DPH-080 | |
| SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 24, 2011 | TIME: 1:00 P.M. |
| "PROCUREMENT OF ELEVEN (11) PORTABLE GENERATORS 17,500 WATTS CAPACITY AND TRANSFER KIT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER" | |
| <small>COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.</small> | |
| <small>QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS IFB SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO WARREN F. VILLAGOMEZ, BIOTERRORISM PROGRAM MANAGER BY FAX TO (670) 236-8769 OR E-MAIL TO Warrenvillagomez@gmail.com NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, MAY 13, 2011.</small> | |
| <small>THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.</small> | |
| /S/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ SECRETARY OF HEALTH | /S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN DIRECTOR, P&S |

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|  PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT  | |
| INVITATION FOR BID IFB NO.: IFB11-DPH-082 (1-2) | |
| SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 24, 2011 | TIME: 2:00 P.M. |
| "PROCUREMENT OF ONE (1) ELECTRIC FORKLIFT (6,000#S CAPACITY) AND ONE (1) LP GAS FORKLIFT (6,000#S CAPACITY BOTH INDOOR & OUTDOOR APPLICATION FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER" | |
| <small>COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.</small> | |
| <small>QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS IFB SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO WARREN F. VILLAGOMEZ, BIOTERRORISM PROGRAM MANAGER BY FAX TO (670) 236-8769 OR E-MAIL TO Warrenvillagomez@gmail.com NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, MAY 13, 2011.</small> | |
| <small>THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.</small> | |
| /S/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ SECRETARY OF HEALTH | /S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN DIRECTOR, P&S |

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|  PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT  | |
| INVITATION FOR BID IFB NO.: IFB11-DPH-079 (1-5) | |
| SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 24, 2011 | TIME: 10:00 A.M. |
| "PURCHASE OF TWO (2) PICK-UP TRUCKS, 4X2 REGULAR CAB, TWO (2) PICK-UP TRUCKS, FULL SIZE EXTENDED CAB, THREE (3) 5 DOORS SUV 4X4, TWO (2) PICK-UP TRUCKS, FULL SIZE CREW CAB AND ONE (1) FLAT BED STAKE TRUCK FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER" | |
| <small>COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.</small> | |
| <small>QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS IFB SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO WARREN F. VILLAGOMEZ, BIOTERRORISM PROGRAM MANAGER BY FAX TO (670) 236-8769 OR E-MAIL TO Warrenvillagomez@gmail.com NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, MAY 13, 2011.</small> | |
| <small>THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.</small> | |
| /S/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ SECRETARY OF HEALTH | /S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN DIRECTOR, P&S |

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|  PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT  | |
| INVITATION FOR BID IFB NO.: IFB11-DPH-081 | |
| SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 26, 2011 | TIME: 10:00 A.M. |
| "PROCUREMENT AND INSTALLATION OF AN INDUSTRIAL TYPE CENTRIFUGAL ROOF VENTILATION EXHAUST SYSTEM FOR THE MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY" | |
| <small>COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.</small> | |
| <small>QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS IFB SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO WARREN F. VILLAGOMEZ, BIOTERRORISM PROGRAM MANAGER BY FAX TO (670) 236-8769 OR E-MAIL TO Warrenvillagomez@gmail.com NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, MAY 17, 2011.</small> | |
| <small>THE PROJECT VISIT WILL BE CONDUCTED ON MAY 13, 2011 AT 9:00 A.M., LOCAL TIME, PLEASE CONTACT JOSE A. ICHIHARA, MSO AT (670) 322-8980.</small> | |
| <small>THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.</small> | |
| /S/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ SECRETARY OF HEALTH | /S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN DIRECTOR, P&S |

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|---|---------------------------------------|
|  PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT  | |
| INVITATION FOR BID IFB NO.: IFB11-DPH-084 | |
| SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 24, 2011 | TIME: 3:00 P.M. |
| "PROCUREMENT OF HOSPITAL LINENS AND RELATED SUPPLIES FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER" | |
| <small>COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.</small> | |
| <small>QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS IFB SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO TOM PALACIOS, CHIEF, GENERAL SUPPORT SERV. BY FAX TO (670) 236-8600 OR E-MAIL TO tpalacios70@hotmail.com NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, MAY 13, 2011</small> | |
| <small>PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO U.S. CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE BID IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.</small> | |
| /S/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ SECRETARY OF HEALTH | /S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN DIRECTOR, P&S |

Environment

The non-toxic way to get rid of unwanted insects

By **TERRI BENNETT**
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS



Want a safer way to get rid of unwanted pests like ants, roaches, and even bed bugs? Do Your Part and try something you've probably never even heard of—Diatomaceous Earth or DE for short. It's actually the fossilized remains of

microscopic shells. When these remains come into contact with insects, it pierces their shells, so the pests die by dehydration. However, when people touch DE, it's as soft to the touch as talcum powder and it's non-toxic.

If you have ants or roaches, sprinkle DE around the foundation of your home but not where ladybugs or other beneficial bugs live. Putting it directly on ant piles is also effective. Then, sprinkle it in areas where ants

and roaches are most likely to enter your home. DE is also effective with slugs. Just sprinkle it around the base of affected plants to create a rough barrier the slugs will avoid. Go to DoYourPart.com/columns to see exactly how it works.

There are few important things to remember when applying Diatomaceous Earth outside. First, you can sprinkle it around with your hands but to cover large areas, you may

want to invest in a garden duster. You can also use a spray bottle to apply a wet mixture (1/4 cup Diatomaceous Earth per gallon of water) on plants. DE lacks killing power when it's wet but is effective upon drying again. Due to the powdery nature of DE, you will need to reapply it after a heavy or prolonged rain.

Inside your home, there might be a battle raging with fleas or bed bugs and DE works wonders on both. Simply

apply DE to carpets and pet bedding to battle fleas. Leave for an hour and then vacuum or launder. For bed bugs, put it on bed frames, mattresses, the floor, and the crevices in your wall. Leave for a few days and then vacuum the area thoroughly.

Here's another important note. Make sure you buy food grade DE. The other kind of Diatomaceous Earth is widely used in swimming pools and it is toxic. You can find food grade DE online, in health food stores, and home improvement places. A five pound bag treats about 2500 square feet. And even though it's safe for people and pets, the dust can irritate lungs, especially with prolonged exposure, so wear a mask if you have a big project.

Using DE around your home instead of toxic pesticides is an easy, effective, and economical way to Do Your Part. You'll be keeping unnecessary chemicals out of our environment, which makes for a healthier planet and a healthier home.

Terri Bennett is a veteran TV meteorologist, syndicated columnist, and host of DoYourPart.com where you can find everyday green living ideas that are better for you and the planet. Send questions to terri@doyourpart.com.



MCT

Do Your Part and try something you've probably never even heard of Diatomaceous Earth or DE for short. It's actually the fossilized remains of microscopic shells. When these remains come into contact with insects, it pierces their shells, so the pests die by dehydration.

Down to Earth

By **TERRI BENNETT**
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS



It's Earth month and there are plenty of reasons to celebrate. Since the 1970s, Americans have successfully worked together to improve the quality of the air, land and water around us. This was done by regulating single sources of pollution like factories, power plants and sewage treatment plants. Today, while we celebrate our advances, it's also time to be mindful of the problems we still face. Now is the time to focus on our personal environment—from fresh water pollution to contaminated air inside our homes. This Earth month, it's more important than ever to Do Your Part at home.

Prior to 1970, lead was pervasive in the outdoor air, smog coated many major cities, and rivers were inflamed in toxic surface sludge. In late 1969 members of Congress worked together to enact the National Environmental Policy Act, which led to a number of new laws such as the Clean Air Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act and others governing the disposal of hazardous waste. We did a lot of great work in

the '70s but it was all directed at single sources of pollution. Today, many of the pollution problems that remain are borne out of multiple sources so there is no one single fix. There are many fixes that add up to a solution and each one of us plays a part.

Let's start with the air inside our homes. It's oftentimes more polluted than the air outside our homes.

The sources? Products we buy and willingly bring into our homes. Things like cleaners, paints, air fresheners, pesticides and even some types of plastic release chemicals into the air that are linked to allergies, asthma, reproductive problems and more.

The solution? Make smarter choices about the products you buy. Just because it's on the shelf doesn't mean it's safe for you or the planet. It's frightening to think about the number of untested chemicals in use today. Be vigilant about knowing what's in the products you buy and use the power of your pocketbook to support companies who make responsible choices.

Our above-ground fresh water supply is also in danger. Nearly half of it is too contaminated for fishing or swimming.

The source? You and me. When we use too many yard chemicals, fail to clean up pet waste or ignore that oil spot under our car, that stuff and so much more gets washed into a storm drain

every time it rains. That toxic cocktail is dumped into a nearby stream or river that is the source of your local water fresh water supply.

It's true that a water treatment facil-

ity can "clean" the water before pumping it back into our pipes, but the more we put in the water, the harder it is to remove and the more it costs taxpayers to keep it clean. And, let's not forget the environmental destruction caused by the hazardous runoff created every time it rains.

The good news is that we have proven that we can make things better. It's time to do it again because the problems we face now truly hit close to home. Doing Your Part where you live is critical and DoYourPart.com is there to help you learn the many ways we can all individually take on changes to make a big difference.

To give you a little incentive, we're partnering with Figs and Ginger during Earth Month to reward everyone who plants a tree. Trees are a sustainable resource and they help clean our air and water. All you have to do is take a photo or video of your good deed, share it with us at DoYourPart.com and we'll send you a "LoveBunny" necklace made of recycled silver by Figs and Ginger. It's our way of saying "Thank You" for doing your part.

Terri Bennett is a veteran TV meteorologist, syndicated columnist, and host of DoYourPart.com where you can find everyday green living ideas that are better for you and the planet. Send questions to terri@doyourpart.com.



Recycled silver necklace.

MCT

Energy Division to host Earth Day 2011

The Department of Public Works/Energy Division Office will be hosting Earth Day 2011 Celebration from May 2 through May 5, 2011 from 9am to 4pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center located in Susupe.

In addition, the Energy Division staff will be on Tinian on May 9-10 at the Tinian Mayor's Conference Room and on Rota on May 12-13 at the Rota Mayor's Office. Events for Tinian and Rota will also be from 9am to 4pm.

The Energy Division through its Energy Education, Efficiency, and Conservation efforts will be distributing reusable shopping bags with Home Energy Savings Kits as part of its Earth Day Celebration. This is made possible through a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy, State Energy Program (SEP), American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

The cornerstone of this campaign is Awareness is Good, Action is Better—"Act Now." Energy Division director Thelma B. Inos encourages everyone to take action today for a greener future.

"By taking small steps, we can make a big difference to help reduce the effects of global warming with more energy-efficient choices at home and at work," she said.

This promotion is available to all residential paying customers of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and therefore, must provide a copy of their CUC utility bill to receive the free items.

For questions or information regarding the Energy Awareness Event you may contact the Energy Division at 664-4480/1. **(PR)**

Life & Style

Westminster Abbey gears up for wedding rehearsal

LONDON (AP)—New flags went up, cleaning crews scrubbed down, police checked for explosives and a handful of die-hard fans were already camping out. Welcome to Westminster Abbey, the ceremonial focus of Britain's royal wedding frenzy.

Scores of police carefully examined the large temporary media structures that have gone up near the venerable abbey in central London, which will offer standing room for the thousands of journalists expected to cover Friday's nuptials of Prince William and Kate Middleton. Police slid mini-cameras inside piles of scaffolding pipes to make sure no bombs were hidden.

To enhance security in the area, dozens of bailed anarchists—arrested in connection with alleged public order offenses during a chaotic protest against government cuts last month—have been barred from entering the Westminster area, for fear that they may cause trouble during the wedding, police said.

Workmen also delivered some surprising wedding floral decorations to the abbey. Instead of flowers, five men hoisted an 18-year-old potted maple tree inside. In all, six field maples and two hornbeams will form an "avenue of trees" lining the aisle leading up to the altar. "These wonderful curved ceilings are supposed to reflect the branches of trees and that was what I thought of when I thought of having trees in the abbey," said florist Shane Connolly.

Streets in London were being sealed off so hundreds of troops from the city's Wellington and Hyde Park Barracks could participate in a pre-dawn dress rehearsal Wednesday morning involving those expected to line the procession route.

Scotland Yard's cavalry arm put its ceremonial division, known as the Grey Escort, through its paces Tuesday and the Band of the Royal Marines rehearsed.

Police plan to deploy around 5,000 officers to police the royal wedding procession, but Assistant Commissioner Lynne Owens appealed to the public Tuesday to be on guard amid fears that Irish or Islamist extremists could target the ceremony.

"We really need you to be our eyes and our ears," Owens said.

Tuesday was the last day the abbey was open to the public before closing for wedding rehearsals and preparations. Dozens of tourists milling around the ancient building were asked to pause for a moment of reflection as a public prayer was offered for the up-



AP

Workers carry an English field maple tree into Westminster Abbey in London in preparation for the royal wedding, Tuesday, April 26, 2011.

coming royal marriage.

"Today we pray for all couples preparing for marriage, especially today we pray for His Royal Highness Prince William and Miss Catherine Middleton as they prepare for their great day on Friday," the

Rev. Martin Hume said.

London has been bracing for a surge of visitors ahead of the wedding and on Tuesday those predictions were borne out, as the Tower of London recorded its highest weekly number of visitors in 12 years.

IN CELEBRATION OF HIS NEW LIFE

†Alex Guiles Nelson

January 21, 1955 – April 21, 2011
Joined our heavenly Father at the age of 56

In his new life, he now joins his:

Father: Herman Capelle Nelson

Mother: Isabel Guiles Nelson

Brothers & Sisters: Dionicio Guiles Nelson,
Joseph Guiles Nelson, Fortunata Guiles
Tebuteb, Rosario Guiles Tebuteb, Fermina Guiles Tebuteb

He is survived by his:

Wife: Gloria T. Nelson **Children:** Jeffrino T. Nelson; Herman T. Nelson;
Kriselda Sasha T. Nelson

Brothers, Sisters, and In-laws: Faustino G./Carmen T. Tebuteb and
Children, Mercy N./Jerry Kramer and Children, Ana N./Sear Taule
and Children, Martin G./Noshe Nelson and Children

**He is additionally survived by numerous aunts, uncles,
nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.**

On Thursday, April 28, 2011, the departed will be escorted from the CHC Morgue at 3:00 p.m. to his brother (Faustino Tebuteb's) residence in Koblerville followed by responso at 4:00 p.m. On Friday, April 29, 2011, Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:00 a.m. at St. Jude Church. Interment service will follow at the Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

Your presence and prayers are greatly appreciated.
Un Dangculo na Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Ghilissou and Thank you.

The Family

Message of Appreciation

We the children, of our beloved Mother

†Dolores
Cepeda
Benavente
Salas

Would like to extend our most heartfelt appreciation to our relatives and friends who surrounded us with their love, prayers, kindness and support. Your thoughtful gestures and kind words have consoled our hearts beyond our expectation in such difficult times. Your presence at the nightly rosaries and most especially at the mass of Christian Burial was very comforting.

We will always remember you in our hearts and prayers.

"May God Bless You All"

Thank you very much and Si Yu'us Ma'ase

From Mae, John, Gerard, Linoa and family

Message of Appreciation

We, the family of
†ELEANOR
BABAUTA BLAS

would like to extend our sincere thanks and olomwaay to our family, relatives, and friends both near and far for your assistance, and most especially prayers during our time of sorrow. Your most comforting expressions of sympathy, kindness, prayer and thoughtfulness has deeply touched us.

In gratitude for all that you have done, we pray to our good Lord to bless and reward each and everyone of you.

God bless us all.

**ANTHONY B. BLAS
& FAMILY**



Lohan says she's ready to take responsibility

NEW YORK (AP)—Lindsay Lohan says she's made poor decisions in the past, but insists she's ready to deal with the consequences.

Appearing on NBC's "Tonight Show" on Tuesday, the troubled actress acknowledged feeling shock at last week's ruling by a Los Angeles judge that sentenced her to jail. But when asked by host Jay Leno if her treatment was fair or unfair, Lohan said she was "treated the way I should be treated."

"I'm a big girl," the 24-year-old Lohan said, "and I'm gonna do what I'm told to do."

On Friday, Lohan was sentenced to 120 days in jail for violating her probation by taking a designer necklace. The actress's attorneys appealed the sentence. Lohan was freed on bond after a few hours behind bars.

Her "Tonight Show" interview had been taped Monday.

AP
In this courtroom sketch actress Lindsay Lohan is seen during a preliminary hearing at the LAX Airport Courthouse, Friday, April 22, 2011 in Los Angeles.

Couric confirms she's leaving 'CBS Evening News'



AP
In this Oct. 6, 2010 file photo, Katie Couric attends a Cinema Society screening of "Fair Game" at the Museum of Modern Art, in New York.

NEW YORK (AP)—Katie Couric confirmed that she is indeed leaving the ratings-based "CBS Evening News," less than five years after she became the first woman to lead a network TV evening newscast by herself.

Couric, 54, told People magazine for a story published on its website Tuesday that she hasn't decided what she's doing next, but that she is "looking at a format that will allow me to engage in more multi-dimensional storytelling."

The Associated Press reported three weeks ago that Couric's tenure as CBS anchor would end just short of five years in the job. Her contract expires June 4.

CBS has not set an exit date but is expected to appoint Scott Pelley of "60 Minutes" as her successor as early as next week.

"There's a lot to be proud of during Katie Couric's time at evening news," said CBS News spokeswoman Sonya McNair. "CBS News, like Katie herself, is looking forward to the next chapter."

Couric left NBC's "Today" in 2006 for CBS and worked to incorporate her strengths as an interviewer into a standard evening news format.

'The Voice' adds a gimmick to reality talent shows

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"The Voice," TV's newest singing contest, is intent on making noise in an increasingly crowded marketplace.

The NBC series, which debuts 9 p.m. EDT Tuesday with a two-hour taped episode that will be repeated at 9 p.m. EDT Wednesday, offers a distinctive gimmick: Contestants are initially heard but not seen by a panel of pop stars.

It's when Christina Aguilera, Cee Lo Green, Adam Levine and Blake Shelton spin around in their throne-like chairs that they glimpse the singer they backed or passed on. The pros themselves compete to assemble a team of would-be pop stars, with the goal of guiding one toward a record contract and a \$100,000 prize.

No need to alert the Society for the Protection of Pretty People: The deck is stacked with some talented lookers.

Viewers may need to take a breath as they encounter unfamiliar terrain: The judges aren't judges. They're "coaches" who also serve as hands-on mentors; each coach has to dump half of his or her team before the audience steps in to vote, starting in June; NBC late-night host Carson Daly is in charge.

And, some may say mercifully, "The Voice" skips an "American Idol"-style extended audition process. The NBC series jumps into action with singers either recommended by industry insiders or otherwise scouted in nationwide performance spaces. That's not to say surprise is lacking, as proved by a lively New Jersey homemaker and a Florida belter in the first episode.

There's a handful of familiar faces, including former "Ameri-



AP
In this March 15, 2011 file photo, singer Christina Aguilera poses at the set of "The Voice," series at Los Angeles Center Studios.

can Idol" contestant Frenchie Davis, who has already appeared on Broadway in "Rent" but says she still yearns for a recording career.

The big twist comes when contestants get to turn the table on the panel. If more than one pro wants them on their team, it's up to the contestant to accept or reject the likes of Maroon 5's Levine or country star Shelton.

The device would be even more engaging if the contestants didn't seem to be drilled in the reality TV art of theatrically dragging out decisions. Word of advice: Leave the drama to a future series for aspiring Oscar or Tony winners.

More entertaining is the panel and its interplay. Shelton turns out to be a natural comic, Levine an avid competitor and Green a charmer. Aguilera, whose recent stumbles include a mangled version of the national anthem, settles comfortably into the role of queen bee, sparring nicely with her male cohorts.

Executive producer Mark Burnett said it was a meal, on him, that fostered the group's camaraderie.

CNN's Cooper says Fox's Hannity distorted words

NEW YORK (AP)—CNN's Anderson Cooper says Fox News Channel took his words out of context to make a false point about media bias.

Cooper, on his CNN show, noted that he was quoted in last week's Sean Hannity special on media bias. Fox aired a clip of Cooper saying that a former U.S. ambassador in Africa, Joseph Wilson, was "the victim of a Bush administration smear campaign."

Cooper says that if Fox aired his full report, it was clear he was reporting Wilson's claim of a smear campaign - not saying it himself.

Cooper says that he tries to choose his words carefully and "don't like it when someone



AP
In a Nov. 20, 2010 file photo, Anderson Cooper arrives at "CNN Heroes: An All-Star Tribute" awards show in Los Angeles.

cuts around them to make it seem like I'm saying something that I'm not."

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Madea's Big Happy Family

Friday 4:10 7:10 9:50
 Saturday 1:10 4:10 7:10 9:50
 Sunday 1:10 4:10 7:10
 Mon thru Thurs 4:10 7:10

Tyler Perry, Loretta Devine
 Comedy drama • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

When her five grown-up children fail to answer her call for a family gathering, exasperated mother Shirley calls on outspoken force of nature Madea to see that everyone comes together to discuss some rather important issues in this filmed stage play written and directed by Tyler Perry. With everyone finally assembled thanks to Madea's tenacity, Shirley addresses some important family secrets, reveals that she's in the midst of a financial crisis, and engages her sons and daughters in a serious talk about drugs.



Beasty

Friday 4:30 7:30 9:55
 Saturday 1:30 4:30 7:30 9:55
 Sunday 1:30 4:30 7:30
 Mon thru Thurs 4:30 7:30

Alex Pettyfer, Vanessa Hudgens
 Fantasy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

A curse transforms a handsome and arrogant young man into everything he detests in this contemporary retelling of Beauty and the Beast. Wealthy Kyle Kingdon (Alex Pettyfer) has everything a teenager could want in life, but he still gets off on humiliating the weaker and less attractive. When Kyle invites his misfit classmate Kendra (Mary-Kate Olsen) to an environmental rally at their school, she questions his motivations but reluctantly accepts. Later, Kyle blows Kendra off, prompting the spurned goth girl to cast a dark spell on the swaggering egotist.



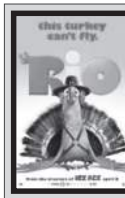
Arthur

Friday 4:00 7:00 9:30
 Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:30
 Sunday 1:00 4:00 7:00
 Mon thru Thurs 4:00 7:00

Russell Brand, Jennifer Garner
 Comedy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

Arthur is a sweet but wildly irresponsible playboy whose millions have left him lonely and with no motivation in life. On the threshold of an arranged marriage with a simpering socialite whom he does not love, Arthur meets the spunky, blue-collar waitress Linda Marolla, and falls head over heels. However, just as he begins to pursue a relationship with Linda, his father and iron-willed grandmother threaten to pull the plug on his huge inheritance if he doesn't honor his position in life and go through with his marriage.



Rio

Friday 4:20 7:20 9:35
 Saturday 1:20 4:20 7:20 9:35
 Sunday 1:20 4:20 7:20
 Mon thru Thurs 4:20 7:20

Anne Hathaway, will.i.am
 Children's/Family • Rated G

Scream 4

Friday 4:25 7:25 9:40
 Saturday 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:40
 Sunday 1:25 4:25 7:25
 Mon thru Thurs 4:25 7:25

Neve Campbell, David Arquette
 Horror • Rated R



Hanna

Friday 4:15 7:15 10:00
 Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:15 10:00
 Sunday 1:15 4:15 7:15
 Mon thru Thurs 4:15 7:15

Saoirse Ronan, Cate Blanchett
 Thriller • Rated PG 13



Hop

Friday 4:05 7:05 9:45
 Saturday 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:45
 Sunday 1:05 4:05 7:05
 Mon thru Thurs 4:05 7:05

James Marsden, Russell Brand
 Children's/Family • Rated PG

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Another star kicked out of the 'Dancing' ballroom

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Wrestling star Chris Jericho was smacked down on "Dancing With the Stars," eliminated from the competition one night after landing in last place on the hit ABC show.

"It's actually good timing that I got eliminated because I have to fly over to England for the royal wedding," Jericho joked after learning his fate on Tuesday's episode.

He and his professional dance partner, Cheryl Burke, collected 22 points out of 30 on Monday for a tango that one judge described as "cold, uneventful and a bit lumpy."

Judges' scores are combined with viewer votes to determine which celebrity is eliminated each week.

"Let's be honest: It wasn't my best dance, and at this point in the competition, you have to be your best every week or this is what happens," Jericho said. "I'm proud of all the dances we did and I'm proud to show that a WWE guy and a rock 'n' roll singer can go this far and do this."

Burke told her partner he exceeded her expectations every week.

"You've turned into an amazing dancer and an amazing

friend," she said.

Jericho joins previously eliminated contestants Sugar Ray Leonard, Wendy Williams, Mike Catherwood and Petra Nemcova.

Tuesday's episode also featured a performance by New Kids on the Block and Backstreet Boys. The now-grown-up boy bands joined together to

sing their new single, "Don't Turn Out the Lights," and their hits "Step By Step" and "I Want It That Way."

In a rare crossover between TV's top-rated shows, "American Idol" reject Pia Toscano sang "I'll Stand By You" as her current squeeze, "Dancing" pro Mark Ballas, performed with a fellow pro.



AP
Host Chris Jericho takes a bat to a boombox radio to begin the 3rd Annual Revolver Golden Gods Awards, Tuesday, April 20, 2011, in Los Angeles.

NKOTB singer Wahlberg tweets Tenn. fan a kidney

BOSTON (AP)—Donnie Wahlberg's Twitter skills have helped find a kidney for an ailing fan from Nashville, Tenn.

The New Kids on the Block bad boy singer tells the Boston Herald one of his 183,000 followers on Twitter retweeted a blog about a fan who urgently needed a kidney transplant.

Wahlberg has more than 30,000 tweets. He retweeted the kidney plea in December and asked for help for Bobbette Miller.

The Herald reports the request prompted a slew of calls to the Vanderbilt University Medical Center and one of the callers was a match.

Miller now is scheduled for a June transplant.

Wahlberg calls the success a team effort. The Boston native says it proves how valuable Twitter can be.



AP
In this Feb. 2, 2008 photo, Donnie Wahlberg attends the Victoria's Secret "What Is Sexy?" Super Bowl party at Taste Ultra Lounge in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Wahlberg also is an actor. He's in the new CBS police drama "Blue Bloods."

NYC checks into report of P. Diddy police escort

NEW YORK (AP)—New York City police say a sergeant allowed a police escort for Sean "P. Diddy" Combs for one city block after a concert.

The police department says the assistance was unauthorized and is under investigation.

Police say the Friday night escort was requested by the hip-hop star's dry cleaner, who asked several officers before the sergeant agreed.

One police van escorted Combs from the Hammerstein Ballroom to just near the entrance for the Lincoln Tunnel. The department says claims that several officers escorted Combs to New Jersey are false.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg says security is the only reason anyone should get a police escort.

A representative for Combs has no comment.



AP
In this March 7, 2010 file photo, Sean Combs arrives at the Vanity Fair Oscar party in West Hollywood, Calif.

Police officials in Washington, D.C., recently attracted attention when they gave actor Charlie Sheen an escort before a performance.

Wife says kiss on the hand deserves slap on the wrist

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I shop in an upscale shoe store. On the past two visits there, a middle-aged salesman kissed my wife's hand when we left. I was surprised but not offended, considering it to be nothing more than an old-fashioned expression of courtesy. The man is knowledgeable, helpful and honest. My wife, however, disagrees. She says his gesture is forward and inappropriate and that I should resent it. Who's right?

T.R. IN HOUSTON

DEAR T.R.: You are. The kiss-on-the-hand routine may be part of the man's sales technique. If he has done it before and your wife had no objection, then it's not surprising he did it a second time. What would she like you to do—challenge him to a duel? If she felt the gesture was inappropriate, then she shouldn't have offered her hand to him a second time.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I hope you will share the following tips for dealing with orphaned or injured wildlife. Once people understand how to handle an encounter with an injured animal they will make safe decisions and possibly have a positive impact on nature:

1. The animal may NOT be orphaned! Deer leave their babies hidden in clumps of bushes or tall grass while they search for food. A baby bird that has fallen from the nest can be gently picked up and returned.

2. If you find an orphaned or injured animal, be very cautious. Frightened animals and animals in pain will bite. Opossums, raccoons and other mammals can carry rabies.

3. Do not bring the animal inside to nurse it back to health and keep as a pet. It will probably need the care of a veterinarian, and it's illegal in most states to keep a native species without a license. Contact a wildlife rehabilitation center. Your local park service can point you to the nearest rehab center.

4. After any contact with an injured/orphaned animal, wash your hands and change your clothing as soon as possible. You don't know what germs the animal may be carrying.

5. Teach children about local wildlife. If they find an animal that is sick or injured, make sure they know they should tell an adult right away.

6. You CAN make a difference. Severely injured animals may not be able to return to the wild, but many rehab centers keep them as display animals and use them to teach the public more about them. Unless you are a veterinarian, you cannot accurately determine if an animal will survive or not. Animals that really have no chance will be humanely euthanized instead of left to suffer, which in a case like that, is the kindest thing that can be done.

CARLY IN RICHMOND HEIGHTS, OHIO

DEAR CARLY: I hope my animal-loving readers will give your letter the consideration it deserves, because it highlights the fact that sometimes people—with the best of intentions—can cause more harm than good. If you encounter an injured animal, the wisest thing to do is contact animal control or a local shelter.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My friend says if it weren't for sex, you wouldn't have enough material to write your column. I disagree, and have told him that you could still do your columns. What say you?

TOM AND JERRY IN CINCINNATI

DEAR TOM AND JERRY: I say I could—but it wouldn't be as much fun.

Jude Law in Austria for '360' film shoot

VIENNA (AP)—Hollywood actor Jude Law is among the stars of "360"—a new movie partly set in the Austrian capital in which the British heartthrob plays a man whose marriage has hit a lull.

The film is directed by Fernando Meirelles and inspired by Arthur Schnitzler's play "Reigen," or "La Ronde."

While storyline specifics are being kept under wraps, screenwriter Peter Morgan told reporters Tuesday that the plot encompasses a "chain reaction of events" that start when Law's character, an Englishman in Vienna on business, is stopped from seeing a prostitute.

"The one rule I gave myself was that it should start and end with a prostitute in Vienna," he said. "Vienna is the soul of the film."

Some of the cast, including Law and German actor Moritz Bleibtreu, are currently in the city for on location shoots.

Law, looking tanned and relaxed, described the script as "really interesting, diverse and challenging" and said he was excited by the project because



AP
British actor Jude Law poses at a photo opportunity in Vienna, Austria, Tuesday, April 26, 2011, during the shooting of the new film "360" inspired by Arthur Schnitzler's classic La Ronde.

he is a big fan of Meirelles.

Meirelles, probably best known for "City of God" and "The Constant Gardener" also had his share of praise for Law, calling him "fantastic."

"He's not just good looking, he's a really, really solid actor," he said.

The movie also stars Anthony Hopkins and Rachel Weisz and will feature eight different languages.

Flavor Flav's chicken restaurant closes in Iowa

CLINTON, Iowa (AP)—A fried chicken restaurant in Iowa founded by Flavor Flav



AP
In this April 3, 2010 file photos, Flavor Flav attends a light heavyweight boxing match between Bernard Hopkins and Roy Jones Jr., in Las Vegas.

has abruptly closed its doors after the reality TV star and his business partner cut ties and exchanged harsh words.

Flav's Fried Chicken in Clinton, Iowa, closed on Sunday, just four months after opening to much fanfare.

Flav told WQAD-TV that he was pulling a license that allowed restaurant manager Nick Cimino to use his name in the restaurant because he "isn't running the business right." Some former employees had complained they were not paid.

Cimino told the station Flav was "a fraud" who was trying to get rich off of his ideas and work.

Flav, a founder of the hip-hop group Public Enemy and later a star of VH1's "The Surreal Life," opened the business with Cimino in January.

Pastimes

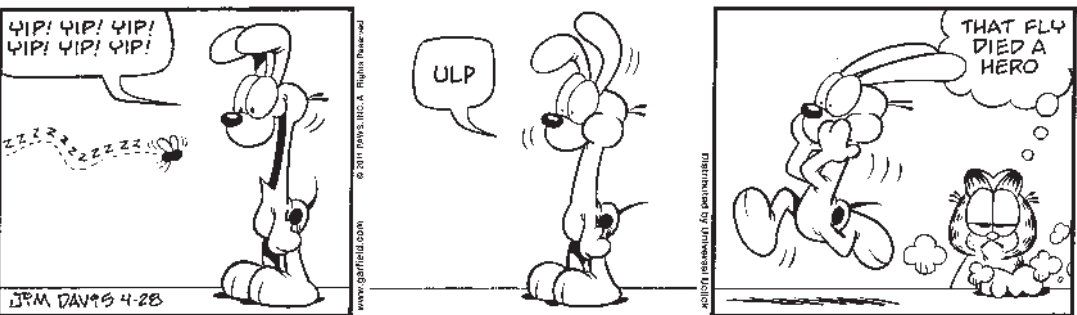
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



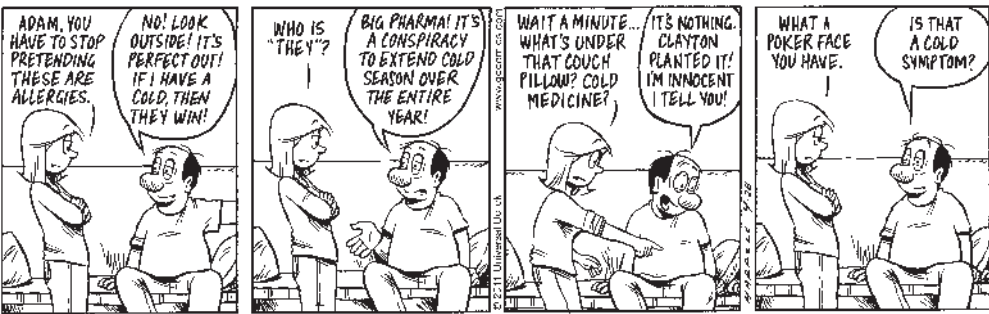
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



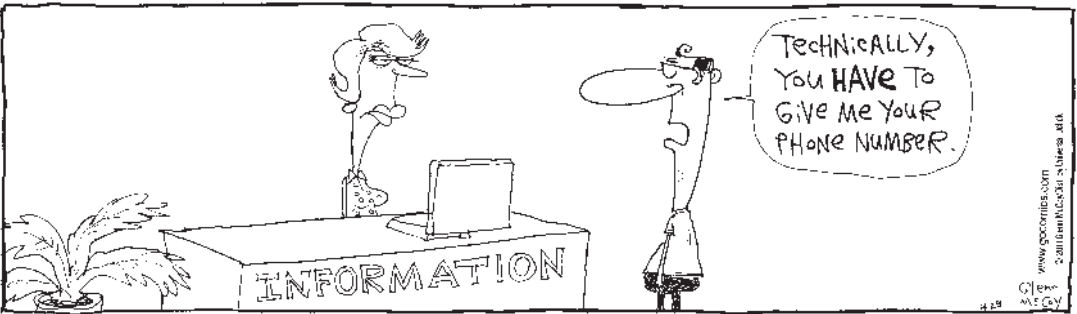
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Locate

5 Society

9 Opposite

12 Vicinity

13 Eastern

14 Blackjack

15 Meat-

17 Deterio-

18 Last

19 Food

21 Exist

22 Syrup

24 Chantilly,

27 Kenny

28 On in

31 "I —

32 Luau

33 "— been

34 Lancaster

36 Roulette

37 Option

38 "Unsafe

40 Italian

41 "Remem-

43 Water-

47 Off-

51 — jiffy

52 Floor in

53 Show the

54 Texter's

55 "Pygma-

56 Sea flock

20 Carte

22 Smith

23 Pink-

24 Deposit

25 Latin 101

26 Fair

27 Foolproof

29 Leading

30 3, on the

35 Neb.

37 Perfume

39 Adorns

40 Shell-

41 Letters

42 Periodic

43 Recog-

44 Layer

45 Bank

46 Odds'

49 "That

50 Scandi-

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 4-28

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jessica Alba, 30; Penelope Cruz, 37; Jay Leno, 61; Ann-Margret, 70

Happy Birthday: Don't end up having regrets because you didn't follow through with your dreams, hopes and wishes. Use your imagination and you will come up with a plan to help you reach your goals. Whether it's picking up more skills or education or moving to a new location, you will make it happen. Your numbers are 8, 14, 20, 24, 35, 37, 46

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Let your intuition guide you when dealing with employers and clients. Your quick response will position you well. A serious discussion with a partner can help to even out responsibilities. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You may be tempted to impress someone by spending more than you should. It will put you in a compromising position and make you look frivolous. Don't reveal anything about finances or a legal concern. Offer your time, not your money. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Keep an eye on anyone you deem untrustworthy. Don't let your personal problems interfere with your productivity at work or you may miss out on an opportunity. Avoid the trivial chatter going on around you or you won't finish what's expected of you. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Love, romance and spending time with someone special will be your prime concerns. If you are single, do things that are creative or cul-

tural and you will meet a prospective partner. If you are in a relationship, enjoy caring, sharing and making romantic plans. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Put everything you've got into your future. Both personal and professional achievement can be made. A change of scenery or planning your next trip will motivate you to work hard, play hard and strive to live life to the fullest. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You can spend to make improvements to your home or to take care of family matters but don't spend frivolously or you will end up owing money you cannot repay. Refuse to let anyone's negativity tempt you to give in to something you don't want. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You'll have the drive to finish what you start and to impress onlookers who may be sizing up how valuable you are. A problem with a partnership may develop if you cannot agree to move in the same direction. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You'll feel akin to someone you meet socially or while networking. Share your thoughts but don't reveal your secrets. This person may be trying to impress you by exaggerating. Put an honest effort into self-improvement projects. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't listen to hearsay. Go directly to the source. Concentrate on making changes to your home that will add to its comfort. A romantic evening will lead to some personal decisions. ★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Look at what worked well for you in the past and you will know how to move forward now. Problems with friends, neighbors and relatives can leave you in a predicament if you aren't prepared to take action. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Look over your money matters and your current situation. You have to own up to anything you owe or need to take care of before moving on. You will feel much better once you put the past behind you and take advantage of the opportunities heading your way. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Deal with a situation at work quickly in order to avoid being blamed for something you didn't do. Don't hold back information, even if it will get someone into trouble. Right now, honesty is the best way to protect your position. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are inquisitive, imaginative, engaging and forceful. You are sensitive toward others and mix charm with willpower.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 3 | | 4 | 9 | | 2 | 6 | |
| 7 | | | | | 1 | | | 4 |
| 2 | | | | | | | | |
| | 9 | | | | | | | 1 |
| 4 | | | | | | | | 8 |
| 1 | | | | | | 7 | | |
| | | | | | | | | 9 |
| 3 | | | 2 | | | | | 5 |
| | 8 | 2 | | 3 | 5 | | 1 | |

Difficulty Level ★★

4/28

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 2 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 4 |
| 5 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 3 |
| 1 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 8 |
| 3 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 5 |
| 4 | 1 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 9 |
| 7 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 6 |
| 6 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 9 | 4 | 2 |
| 2 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 7 |
| 9 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 1 |

Difficulty Level ★★

4/27

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID CUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

STUFFED PORTABELLA MUSHROOMS

Solution: 5 letters

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T | C | D | O | C | S | C | H | I | C | K | E | N | B | N |
| O | A | R | E | N | I | A | O | W | A | L | N | U | T | O |
| M | L | R | O | L | A | M | U | R | Y | A | T | E | F | M |
| A | S | I | R | U | L | G | A | T | I | T | Z | L | S | L |
| T | N | A | O | A | T | I | E | S | E | A | R | Z | A | A |
| O | G | P | U | R | G | O | R | R | L | S | N | A | I | S |
| E | T | A | P | S | B | O | N | G | O | A | E | D | E | P |
| S | N | R | A | T | A | A | N | S | C | K | B | E | E | H |
| O | A | S | P | H | E | G | R | R | N | Y | N | P | H | R |
| D | S | L | R | Y | M | B | E | C | T | O | P | A | E | C |
| A | E | ® | I | M | R | A | H | S | S | E | M | H | P | H |
| C | M | Y | ® | E | M | I | A | A | R | I | S | E | T | I |
| O | R | E | A | ® | L | T | E | S | N | O | N | O | L | V |
| V | A | D | A | I | ® | S | S | C | K | I | R | I | C | E |
| A | P | P | E | T | I | Z | E | R | W | B | E | E | F | S |

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4/28

Appetizer, Avocado, Bake, Balsamic, Beef, Bread, Broil, Broth, Butter, Cheese, Chicken, Chili, Chives, Coriander, Crab, Cream, Croutons, Feta, Garlic, Grilled, Hearty, Kosher, Lemon, Meat, Mince, Onions, Oregano, Panko, Paprika, Parmesan, Parsley, Peppers, Pizza, Rice, Salmon, Salt, Sausages, Sauté, Season, Tarragon, Tasty, Thyme, Tomatoes, Walnut, Wine

Yesterday's Answer: Aubergine

SALE: 15¢ each of 100 words; 15¢ each of 200 words; 15¢ each of 300 words; 15¢ each of 400 words; 15¢ each of 500 words; 15¢ each of 600 words; 15¢ each of 700 words; 15¢ each of 800 words; 15¢ each of 900 words; 15¢ each of 1000 words; 15¢ each of 1100 words; 15¢ each of 1200 words; 15¢ each of 1300 words; 15¢ each of 1400 words; 15¢ each of 1500 words; 15¢ each of 1600 words; 15¢ each of 1700 words; 15¢ each of 1800 words; 15¢ each of 1900 words; 15¢ each of 2000 words; 15¢ each of 2100 words; 15¢ each of 2200 words; 15¢ each of 2300 words; 15¢ each of 2400 words; 15¢ each of 2500 words; 15¢ each of 2600 words; 15¢ each of 2700 words; 15¢ each of 2800 words; 15¢ each of 2900 words; 15¢ each of 3000 words; 15¢ each of 3100 words; 15¢ each of 3200 words; 15¢ each of 3300 words; 15¢ each of 3400 words; 15¢ each of 3500 words; 15¢ each of 3600 words; 15¢ each of 3700 words; 15¢ each of 3800 words; 15¢ each of 3900 words; 15¢ each of 4000 words; 15¢ each of 4100 words; 15¢ each of 4200 words; 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Rose, Bulls eliminate Pacers, 116-89



CHICAGO (AP)—Sitting on the bench with four fouls and his team struggling, Derrick Rose pleaded with his coach to put him back in the game.

Chicago coach Tom Thibodeau took the risk and his All-Star guard responded, lifting the Bulls to the second round.

Rose scored 25 points, Luol Deng added 24 and Chicago finally played like a top seed, knocking off the Indiana Pacers 116-89 in Game 5 to wrap up their first-round playoff series Tuesday night.

The top-seeded Bulls can breathe a little easier after getting a dominant performance by their MVP candidate and an emphatic win that came on the heels of four dramatic games.

They can also turn their attention to the Eastern Conference semifinals, where they'll meet Atlanta or Orlando.

"Speechless right now," Rose said. "I really can't believe it. It's a great accomplishment. I'm happy for my teammates, happy for my coaching staff. They did a really great job."

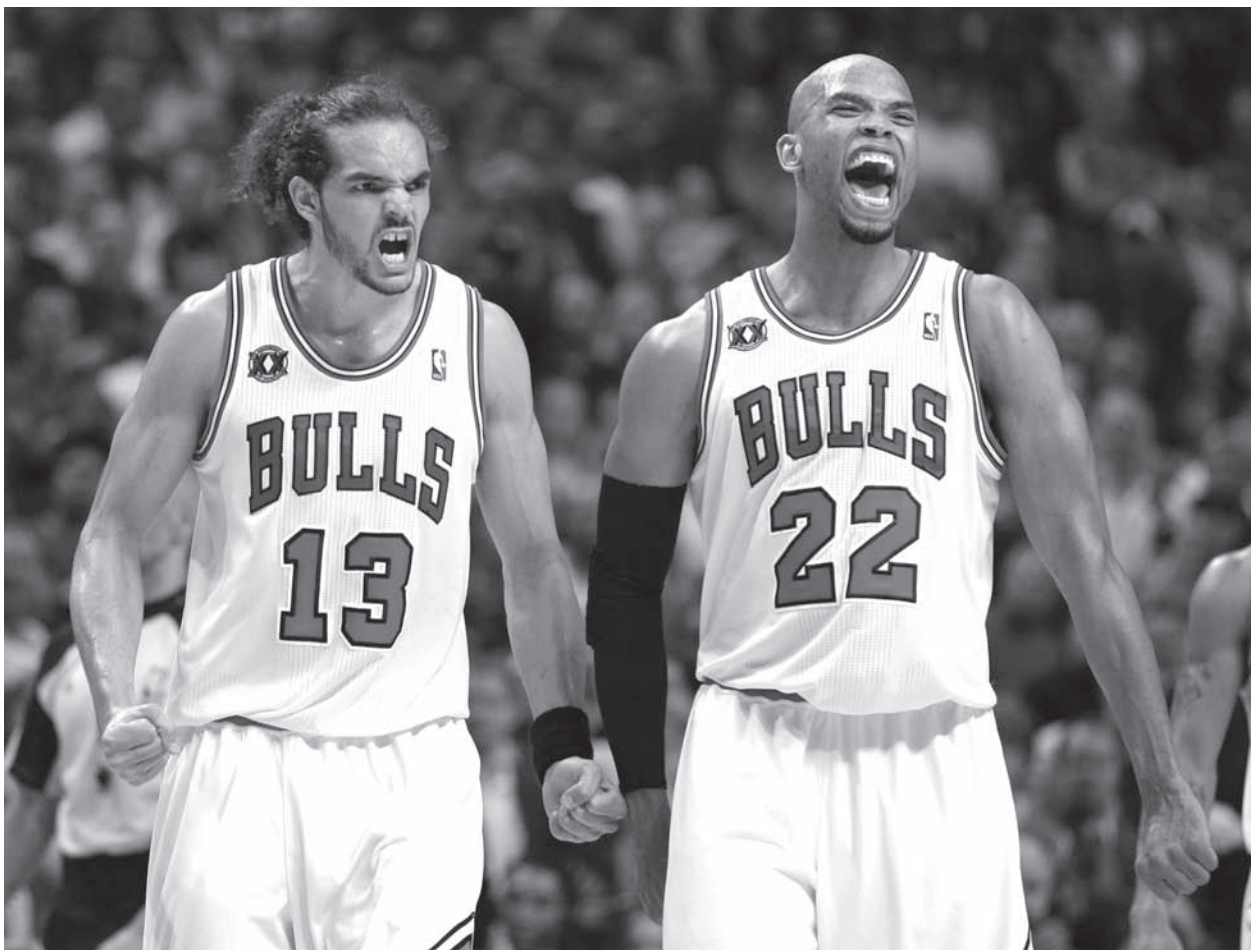
Rose seemed just fine after spraining his left ankle in Game 4. He had it taped and acknowledged he was a bit apprehensive at first, but he wound up hitting 8 of 17 shots. He dominated in the early going and came up big in the third after the Pacers pulled within four. He scored 10 points over the final six minutes after returning with four fouls, and Chicago ended the quarter on a 23-8 run to blow the game open.

The Bulls hit 14 of 31 3-pointers, including five by Keith Bogans (15 points) and three each by Deng and Rose. Deng also had seven assists and six rebounds.

Joakim Noah added 14 points and eight rebounds, and the Bulls won a playoff series for the first time since they swept Miami in the first round in 2007 and only the second time since the championship era. It was clearly their most impressive performance of the postseason even though Carlos Boozer scored just two points.

"All year long, we've focused in on going step by step," Thibodeau said. "I think once you start skipping steps and looking at all the other stuff, that's when you get lost. So we knew we were capable of playing better, although when you look at the series, to be up 3-1, you've got to do a lot of things well, too."

Danny Granger scored 20 for the Pacers and had some strong words afterward for Noah. He accused Noah of



Chicago Bulls center Joakim Noah (13) and forward Taj Gibson (22) react during the third quarter in Game 5 of a first-round NBA playoffs basketball series against the Indiana Pacers on Tuesday, April 26, 2011, in Chicago.

throwing elbows that ultimately led to a technical foul for A.J. Price after an altercation with Tyler Hansbrough and an ejection by Josh McRoberts later in the game.

"He's a dirty player, honestly," Granger said.

"Everyone knows in the league Jo is not dirty," Deng countered.

Tyler Hansbrough had 14 points and 11 rebounds, but the Pacers trailed the entire way and committed 21 turnovers.

The Pacers had just scored seven straight to pull within 61-57 midway through the third with Rose on the bench with four fouls when the Bulls put them away.

Taj Gibson actually started the barrage with a 19-footer. Rose, who had just returned, then went to work.

"They made a run and got it close, but we made a run and it really became contagious," Deng said. "Guys were just hitting shots and we moved the ball really well."

Rose hit a 3-pointer, blocked Hibbert down low, and hit another 3. Then, he stole the ball from Nick Collison and got fouled on the break, hitting 1 of 2 free throws to make it 70-57 with 4:32 left in the quarter.

Rose nailed another 3 two minutes later to make it 75-60, and Bogans buried two more as the lead hit 82-65 with 42 seconds left.

"The biggest challenge is they're good at countering everything you throw at them," Pacers interim coach Frank Vogel said.

Lakers 106, Hornets 90

In Los Angeles, Kobe Bryant scored 19 points and threw down two stirring dunks on a sprained left ankle, and the Los Angeles Lakers pushed the New Orleans Hornets to the brink of first-round playoff elimination with a 106-90 victory in Game 5 on Tuesday night, taking a 3-2 series lead.

Andrew Bynum had 18 points and 10 rebounds, and Pau Gasol added 16 points as the two-time defending NBA champions roared back from a slow start in a pivotal game for their threepeat hopes with another dramatic playoff performance by Bryant, who injured his ankle in Game 4.

Trevor Ariza scored 22 points, Marco Belinelli added 21, and Chris Paul had 20 points and 12 assists for the seventh-seeded Hornets, who have lost three of four since their stunning Game 1 victory. Ariza hit five 3-pointers, but

managed just six points in the second half as the Lakers took control of the game and perhaps the series.

Game 6 is Thursday in New Orleans.

Bryant left New Orleans on crutches two days earlier, but he refused an MRI exam extensive treatment when he got home, with coach Phil Jackson reluctantly agreeing. Postseason injuries are nothing new for the two-time NBA finals MVP, who has persevered through a slew of them during 67 playoff games in the previous three years.

After a slow start, Bryant erased worries about his fitness with a dunk that recalled the days when a younger Kobe wore a No. 8 jersey. Late in the second quarter, he drove the lane with a left-hand dribble, went up with two hands and threw down a right-handed slam over Emeka Okafor, electrifying his Staples Center fans.

He added another crowd-riling slam with his left hand in the third quarter while Los Angeles jumped to an 11-point lead, and he headed back to the locker room early to get more treatment when he came out for good in the final minutes.

Magic 101, Hawks 76

In Orlando, the Magic aren't ready for

their season to end just yet.

Facing their first opening round post-season exit since 2007, the Magic blew out the Atlanta Hawks 101-76 on Tuesday night.

Jason Richardson scored 17 points and J.J. Redick added 14 off the bench to lead the Magic.

The win trims Atlanta's series' lead to 3-2 and keeps alive the Magic's hopes of becoming the ninth team in NBA history to win a playoff series after trailing 3-1. If they can win Game 6 Thursday in Atlanta, they would host a decisive Game 7 on Saturday.

Magic center Dwight Howard battled foul trouble throughout the night and had just one field goal, finishing with eight points and eight rebounds. Orlando didn't need his offense, though, as it broke out of a series-long shooting funk with 11 3-pointers.

"We're a good shooting team," Magic coach Stan Van Gundy said. "This is more of us than what we showed in the first four games...This isn't an aberration. We've been doing this for four years. The first four games were the aberration."

Josh Smith scored 22 points to lead Atlanta, which shot below 40 percent for just the second time this series.

The Magic cruised in the second half, allowing Howard to log his first extended rest of the series in the fourth quarter as their lead crept above 30 points.

In a short turnaround following his team's loss in Game 4, Van Gundy preached patience over panic to his team. It paid off in a big way as Orlando was unselfish in its half court sets and passed the ball to free up its shooters.

That allowed the Magic to push the pace and keep the game up tempo. The Hawks have won every game with the Magic this season in which it kept them under 90 points.

For the second straight game the Magic's bench got some production led by Redick. It also got 11 points from Ryan Anderson and nine from Gilbert Arenas, who had erupted for 20 in Game 4.

The Hawks couldn't miss in the first four games, but were cold throughout Tuesday. They shot a series-low 36 percent overall and 25 percent from beyond the arc.

The Magic finished at just 41 percent, but hit 42 percent of their attempts from 3.

"The law of averages is eventually going to even out," Redick said. "We didn't shoot amazing tonight, but we shot very well."



JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP)

—Tiger Woods

has a minor injury to his left knee and Achilles' tendon that will keep him out of the Wells Fargo Championship next week, raising more questions that his health might be the biggest obstacle in his chase of Jack Nicklaus' record.

Woods said on his website Tuesday that he hurt himself hitting a shot during the third round of the Masters. It's the fourth time he has missed a tournament because of his left

Woods has minor knee injury, will miss a few weeks

knee. Woods did not say when he might return, but he hopes to be back in a few weeks.

"This is precautionary. We're not at all concerned," said Mark Steinberg, his agent at IMG. "He's just listening to his doctors, which is kind of nice. He certainly didn't listen to them before the U.S. Open in 2008."

Woods won that U.S. Open in a playoff for his 14th major. He hasn't won a major since then, leaving him four behind the record 18 professional majors

won by Nicklaus.

Steinberg said Woods has been in a protective boot when he's moving around and has not hit a shot since the Masters. He said Woods considered playing the Wells Fargo until Tuesday.

Woods won at Quail Hollow in 2007 and had not finished worse than 11th in four appearances until a year ago when he missed the cut with his highest 36-hole score.

The following week is The Players Championship, which

Woods won in 2001, although it is not among his favorite courses. He has finished in the top 10 only four times in 13 appearances and withdrew from the final round a year ago with a neck injury.

Steinberg said there was a "reasonable chance" Woods will be at The Players Championship.

"We'll do the same next week, do an early to midweek test to see if it's good enough where he can be hitting the ball," he said.

Woods described this injury as minor - a mild sprain of his medial collateral ligament in the left knee, along with a mild strain to his left Achilles. Woods said the injury occurred when he had to squat to play a shot from under the Eisenhower tree left of the 17th fairway.

His left foot got caught in the pine straw as the momentum of the swing carried him backward. Woods hit into a front bunker and saved par on his way to a 74, then shot 31 on the front

nine Sunday to tie for the lead. He wound up tied for fourth, and he appeared to be limping coming to the 18th green.

Woods, who held a series of clinics in Asia the week after the Masters, said he later sought a medical evaluation. He said doctors have advised rest and cold-water therapy, along with soft tissue treatment that is to begin this week.

"I personally contacted tournament officials and expressed my regret in not being able to play," Woods said. "This is an outstanding event, but I must follow doctors' orders to get better."

Indians beat Royals to open gap in AL Central



CLEVELAND
(AP)—Justin Masterson won his fifth straight

start as the Cleveland Indians beat the Kansas City Royals 9-4 on Tuesday to open a 2-1/2 game lead in the American League Central division.

Masterson allowed five hits in 6 2-3 innings to move to a 5-0 record — the reverse of his 0-5 start in 2010.

Cleveland's Jack Hannahan hit solo shots in the third and fifth off Luke Hochevar (2-3), and Shin-Soo Choo connected for a three-run homer in the seventh on reliever Louis Coleman's first pitch to make it 7-3.

Blue Jays 10, Rangers 3

In Arlington, Adam Lind homered twice and drove in five runs for Toronto in a rout of AL West-leading Texas.

Lind had an RBI single in Toronto's five-run outburst in the first off Matt Harrison (3-2). Lind then homered leading off the third and hit a three-run homer the next inning for his fifth career multihomer game — three of them at Rangers Ballpark.

Toronto's Jesse Litsch (2-1), recalled from the minors to make the start, held Texas to seven hits over six innings.

Angels 8, Athletics 3

In Anaheim, Alexi Amarista hit a two-run double on the third pitch he ever saw in the major leagues and added a sacrifice fly as Los Angeles beat Oakland.

Howie Kendrick had three hits and scored three runs for the Angels.

Los Angeles starter Tyler Chatwood (2-1) pitched 5 1-3 innings and allowed three runs.

Oakland starter Brandon McCarthy (1-2) surrendered seven runs over 5 1-3 innings.

White Sox 3, Yankees 2

In New York, late substitute Brent Lillibridge made two spectacular catches in a row to save Chicago and deny New York.

Lillibridge entered as a pinch-runner in the eighth and scored on Paul Konerko's go-ahead homer off struggling setup man Rafael Soriano (1-1).

Lillibridge stayed in the game in right field and, with two runners on in the ninth, raced back to the wall to make a terrific catch of Alex Rodriguez's drive



Kansas City Royals shortstop Alcides Escobar leaps over Cleveland Indians baserunner Shin-Soo Choo after forcing him out at second and then throwing to first on a ground ball by Indians' batter Carlos Santana in the fifth inning of a baseball game in Cleveland on Tuesday, April 26, 2011. Santana was safe at first on the play.

for the second out, keeping Chicago in front and also keeping the runners at first and second.

Mariners 7, Tigers 3

In Detroit, Miguel Olivo hit a lucky home run as Seattle beat Detroit.

Olivo hit a routine-looking fly ball to deep left field but Ryan Raburn struggled to find it in the sun. Still short of the warning track, Raburn lunged back, only to deflect the ball high into the air and over the fence for Olivo's first homer of the season.

Mariners starter Felix Hernandez (3-2) beat the Tigers for the seventh straight time, allowing four hits in six innings.

Orioles 4, Red Sox 1

In Baltimore, the hosts ended Boston's five-game winning streak.

Zach Britton (4-1) allowed just one run in six innings to become the first Orioles rookie starter to win four games in April.

Derrek Lee had two hits and scored twice, Adam Jones drove in two runs and Vladimir Guerrero had his first three-hit for Baltimore.

Boston starter Clay Buchholz (1-3) yielded 12 hits in 6 2-3 innings.

Marlins 4, Dodgers 2

In Miami, Los Angeles' Andre Ethier set a major league hitting record but it was not enough to prevent the Dodgers sliding to a 4-2 loss at the hands of the Florida Marlins in the National League on Tuesday.

Ethier hit safely for his 23rd straight game, the most by any player ever in April.

Mike Stanton drove in two runs, Gaby Sanchez homered and Hanley Ramirez added a pair of hits and scored two runs for the Marlins, who have won seven of eight.

Rockies 4, Cubs 3

In Chicago, Todd Helton hit two home

runs as Colorado beat Chicago.

It was the 27th career multihomer game for Helton and his first since 2007.

Rockies starter Jorge De La Rosa (4-0) allowed one earned run in seven innings. Closer Huston Street gave up a solo homer to Alfonso Soriano leading off the ninth before closing out the Cubs for his ninth straight save to start the season.

Chicago starter James Russell (1-3) gave up four runs and four walks in four innings.

Diamondbacks 7, Phillies 5

In Phoenix, pitcher Daniel Hudson doubled in two runs to help earn his first victory of the season, as Arizona beat Philadelphia.

Hudson (1-4) gave up two runs in six innings, striking out six with no walks. His two-run double in Arizona's three-run second inning put the Diamondbacks ahead for good.

Phillies starter Roy Oswalt (3-1) saw his string of 10 consecutive winning decisions come to an end.

He lasted just three innings, allowing five runs with no strikeouts. It doubled the number of runs he had allowed this season, across four starts and 24 innings.

Brewers 3, Reds 2

In Milwaukee, Rickie Weeks, Ryan Braun and Prince Fielder all hit solo homers as Milwaukee beat Cincinnati for the first time this season.

Milwaukee had been 0-4 against the Reds this year and losers of 19 of 22 against them, but Weeks helped end that run by homering off reliever Logan Ondrusek (2-2) to lead off the eighth.

Fielder hit his to begin the second to drive in his major league-leading 23rd run. Braun's shot to start the fourth was his major league-leading ninth this season.

Astros 6, Cardinals 5

In Houston, Bill Hall's ninth-inning RBI single gave Houston a win over St. Louis.

Brian Bogusevic came home on a wild pitch by closer Mitchell Boggs (0-1) earlier in the inning to tie the scores.

Angel Sanchez and Hunter Pence both singled to load the bases and set

up Hall's winner.

Former Astro Lance Berkman had put the Cardinals on top 5-4 in the top of the ninth with an RBI double off Brandon Lyon (2-1) before Hall ruined his homecoming.

Lyon allowed two hits in the ninth but took the win.

Giants 3, Pirates 2, 10 innings

In Pittsburgh, Darren Ford scored on a fielder's choice in the 10th inning for the game winner, and earlier came home with the tying run as a pinch runner in the eighth, helping San Francisco beat Pittsburgh and snap a season-worst four-game losing streak.

The Giants scored all their runs on plays that did not involve a hit.

Ford, a rookie without a hit in the majors, reached base in the 10th when Nate Schierholtz—who had led off with a double—was thrown out at third on Ford's sacrifice attempt. Ford then went from first to third on an errant pickoff throw by Joel Hanrahan (0-1).

Braves 8, Padres 2

In San Diego, David Ross hit two home runs to help lift Atlanta over San Diego.

Ross drove in four runs with a solo homer in the second and a three-run blast to cap the Braves' five-run sixth inning. Both home runs, Ross' first two of the season, came off Aaron Harang (4-1).

Chipper Jones hit a two-run homer in the first inning to tie Hall of Famer Mickey Mantle for second place among switch hitters with 1,509 RBIs.

Braves starter Jair Jurrjens (2-0) had his first complete game in 95 career starts.

Mets 6, Nationals 4

In Washington, New York extended its winning streak to five games by downing Washington.

Josh Thole had three RBIs, including a two-run double that put the Mets ahead in the sixth inning.

Reliever Ryota Igarashi (1-0) took the win by getting a strike out to end the fifth inning. Starter Chris Young lasted 4 2-3 innings, allowing three runs in his first start since overcoming tendinitis in his right biceps.

NFL, players struggle through lockout limbo



NEW YORK (AP)--Lockout has turned into limbo for NFL players and owners, and everyone is stuck there for the time being.

"It drives me insane, that's what it does," said Chicago rookie J'Marcus Webb, who was told he and a handful of other Bears couldn't use the team's weight room Tuesday. "I'm trying to eat healthy and work out, do my job and right now I'm just stuck at home working out and watching cartoons all day.

"What's up with that? Let me get back to what I do best."

That could take a while. The 2011 season, and the business between 32 teams and their thousands of anxious players, is in a holding pattern. With more court fights and appeals expected, the NFL said it needed "a few days to sort this out" and provide some rules for everyone to follow.

"We are in the process of determining throughout the league as to just how we'll proceed and when we'll open the new year across the league,

the new football year," Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said. "We have not done that."

At least the draft will be held this week, even if free agency and personnel swaps are up in the air.

In one of the oddest days in NFL history, players showed up at their team headquarters and most were told that they were welcome to come inside as long as they didn't participate in any sort of "football activities."

Most left in a matter of minutes with more questions than answers about where the \$9 billion business is headed. And there was no consistency - some teams allowed players to work out (Giants) while others turned them away altogether (Bills).

No rules, not yet. Just uncertainty.

In a question-and-answer memo distributed by the NFLPA and obtained by The Associated Press, free agents were told they can contact teams and shop their services, putting pressure on the NFL to set up a free agency system that complies with antitrust laws.

The document also told players that teams are re-

sponsible for care of any football-related injury, meaning it's "safer for players to work out on club property."

U.S. District Judge Susan Richard Nelson lifted the 45-day lockout late Monday, but that did nothing to clear this up. The NFL asked her to put her order on hold, and she agreed to weigh the request after the players' response is filed Wednesday.

That means the questions will linger at least another day and if the NFL loses again, it will place its hopes with the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in St. Louis.

With Nelson's decision pending, NFL lead negotiator Jeff Pash said it was too soon to tell exactly when free agency would begin and which players would be eligible.

"What we need to do is let the dust settle for a day or two and see if the stay is put in place, and then we'll all know more and go from there," Pash said.

Green Bay Packers president and CEO Mark Murphy said the owners were concerned about restarting league operations - and then perhaps having another "un-start" in two months.

"One of our lawyers described it as trying to unscramble an egg," Murphy said. "I think that's what we all want to avoid."

Little was clear Tuesday as both sides seemed to make up the rules as they went along. And the vast majority of players simply stayed away.

"It's very chaotic for the teams right now," agent Drew Rosenhaus said. "It's not chaotic for the players. Our position is the lockout is over, free agency should begin, signings should begin, off-season workouts should begin, everything should be going on. The longer the NFL doesn't do that and drags this out, the more there are concerns of collusion and violations of antitrust laws."

Cleveland wide receiver Josh Cribbs and a small group of Browns players showed up at the team's training facility and were greeted by Lew Merletti, senior vice president and director of security. Merletti handed them an official letter.

"It basically told us to be patient," Cribbs said. "It let us know we can't go upstairs and can't have any personal contact with coaches or staff. It was kind of awkward because we don't talk to our security staff unless there is a security issue, so the security issue was us."

Week 2 of 2011 CNMI Junior Championships

PHOTOS BY
ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Above, Thea Minor gets ready to serve during her and sister Theecel's game against Negahr Rastguiy and Tammy Ackerman in the girls U18 doubles.

Right, Michael Ren hits a return from the baseline during his and Steven Goodwin's doubles match over Michael Jones and Vincent Tudela.

Below, Seiya Eda makes a return from the baseline.



Steven Goodwin receives a powerful return from Vincent Tudela.



Daniel Park has all eyes on the ball.



Above, Tammy Ackerman prepares to serve.

Left, Vincent Tudela returns to Steven Goodwin during their U12 singles semis game in the 2011 CNMI Junior Championships last weekend at the AMP tennis courts.

Below, Tommy Choi serves during his and Seiya Eda's game over Amami Sakano and Daniel Park.



Isabel Heras returns to Tammy Ackerman during their U12 singles title game.



Tania Tan goes for a double-forehand return during her and Mimi Sakano's game over Liza and Catherine Atalig.





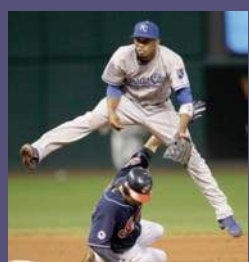
Rose, Bulls eliminate Pacers, 116-89

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Indians beat Royals to open gap in AL Central

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

28 THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2011

Mamiko off to Gold Coast Marathon

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Mamiko Oshima-Berger will don the colors of the CNMI anew, as she was selected to represent the Commonwealth in the prestigious 2011 Gold Coast Airport Marathon in Queensland, Australia this July.

"With her impressive performance in the Saipan Marathon and other local long distance races, Northern Marianas Athletics is proud to nominate Mamiko Oshima-Berger to the Gold Coast Marathon," NMA official and Oceania Athletics Association Council member Robin Sapong said in a telephone interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

See MAMIKO on Page 26



Upset in girls U18 doubles



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Melody Johnson, seen here going for a return against Negahr Rastguiy and Tammy Ackerman during their girls U18 doubles game in the 2011 CNMI Junior Championships last weekend at the AMP tennis courts, teamed up with Mikayla Lopez in beating Thea and Theecel Minor.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Melody Johnson's victory over the favored tandem of siblings Thea and Theecel Minor.

The two teams met on Sunday at the AMP tennis courts with similar 2-0 records in the round-robin tournament and the Minor sisters were highly picked to keep their winning streak after sweeping their first two foes.

Thea and Theecel first clobbered Amy Arenovski and Jazmin Rayphand, 6-0, 6-1, in Week 1 of the two-weekend championships and then went 2-0 after another straight set victory over Negahr Rastguiy and Tammy Ackerman in Week 2 last Saturday, 6-2, 6-3.

Lopez and Johnson also won their first two games, pulling off a three-set victory over Ackerman and Rastguiy in Week 1, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2, and then beating Arenovski and Rayphand in Week 2.

Then for the championship-deciding game last Sunday, the Minor siblings drew first blood, taking the opening set by four points, 6-2. However, the Mi-

See UPSET on Page 26

Lady Rays sting Dolphins in opener

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The Saipan Southern High School Lady Manta Rays opened their campaign in the 2010-2011 Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization Girls Fast-Pitch Softball League with a bang after routing Marianas High School Junior Varsity Lady Dolphins during the MISO fast-pitch league last Tuesday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Ballfield.

See LADY on Page 26

A Saipan Southern High School batter takes a cut during their game against MHS Junior Varsity Lady Dolphins during the MISO fast-pitch league last Tuesday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Ballfield.

WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Mamiko Oshima-Berger, seen here nearing the finish line of this year's Tagaman Triathlon, will represent the CNMI in the 2011 Gold Coast Airport Marathon in Queensland, Australia this July.

\$25,000 hole-in-one prize at NMC Open

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



A whopping \$25,000 cash from Aon Insurance is at stake in this Saturday's 9th Annual Northern Marianas College Foundation Open Golf Tournament, which will tee off on the west course of the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.

The \$25,000 is the hole-in-one prize on the par-3, 173-yard No. 13.

"The NMC Foundation is grateful for Aon's continuous sponsorship," NMC Foundation president Ben Babauta said. "The company's participation in the golf tournament will play a major role in the success of the event."

"Garnering and providing support

See \$25,000 on Page 26



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Aon's regional director Rod Rankin, fourth from left, and staff present NMC Foundation vice president Ivan Quichocho, center, with the \$25,000 hole-in-one sponsorship for last year's tournament. This year they are committed to the same sponsorship for the 9th Annual Foundation Open Golf Tournament to be held at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.